

THE ACADEMY.

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1894.

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UNIVERSITY of ST. ANDREWS.

In consequence of Professor Jones having intimated to the University Court his intention to vacate the CHAIR of LOGIC and METAPHYSICS at 1st October next, APPLICATIONS, accompanied by Twenty copies of Testimonials, may be lodged with the Secretary of the Court until 10th September. The appointment will be made subject to such alterations as to the duties of the Chair as may hereafter be enacted by Ordinance of the Scottish Universities Commissioners. The new Professor will be expected to enter on his duties on 10th October.
St. Andrews, 20th July, 1894.

UNIVERSITY of DUBLIN.

The Council will proceed to Nominate a PROFESSOR of MUSIC in Michaelmas Term of the present year. The Chair is tenable for five years, and the Professor may be re-elected at the end of that period. Details as to the duties of the Chair, and other particulars, may be obtained from the Registrar of Trinity College, to whom candidates should send testimonials and copies of their published works before the 10th of October, 1894.

JOHN K. INGRAM, Registrar.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE.

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The NEXT ANNUAL MEETING of the Association will be held at OXFORD, commencing on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8th.

PRESIDENT-ELECT.

The Most Hon. THE MARQUIS of SALISBURY, K.G., D.C.L., F.R.S., Chancellor of the University of Oxford.

Information about Local Arrangements may be obtained from the Local Secretaries, The Museum, Oxford.

G. GRIFFITH, Assistant General Secretary.

BRITISH MUSEUM.

EVENING OPENING (8 to 10 P.M.).

Exhibition-galleries of the British Museum, Bloomsbury, will again be OPEN to the Public in the EVENING, from 8 to 10 o'clock, on and after WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1st.

E. MAUNDE THOMPSON,

Principal Librarian and Secretary.
British Museum, 24th July, 1894.

ROYAL ACADEMY of ARTS.—LAST

WEEK.—The Exhibition will CLOSE on the EVENING of MONDAY, AUGUST 6th.

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ROYAL SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The SUMMER EXHIBITION will CLOSE on SATURDAY, AUGUST 4th, 5, TALL MALL EAST, from 10 till 6. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s.
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LITERATURE.

Literary Associations of the English Lakes.
By the Rev. H. D. Rawnsley. In 2 vols. (MacLehose.)

IN the *Reminiscences and Experiences* of the late Edmund Yates there is an excellent story told of which, while reading these two volumes, I have been once and again reminded. Amongst the *habitués* of the Garrick Club, in the days when Dickens and Albert Smith and Benjamin Webster were members, there was a certain original named Andrew Arcedeckne, of whom Thackeray, to the intense mortification of his victim, and in open violation of the sanctities of club life, had not scrupled to give to the world, in the character of Harry Foker, Esquire, a portrait absolutely cruel in its uncompromising fidelity. The injured man vowed vengeance, and before long fate threw a golden opportunity in his way. It chanced, says Edmund Yates, that on the night after Thackeray's delivery of his first lecture on the "Humourists" at Willis's Rooms, where he had a very aristocratic audience, the great cynic was preening himself under a mass of congratulations at the Cider Cellars Club, when Arcedeckne entered and walked up to him. "How are you, Thack?" he said, buttoning his coat across in his usual fashion. "I was at your show to-day at Willis's. What a lot of swells you had there—yes! But I thought it was dull, devilish dull! I'll tell you what it is, Thack. You want a Piano!"

Now, though it would be neither civil nor to the point were we to hint to the author of these volumes that he "wants a Piano," one may, without impropriety, observe that Mr. Rawnsley's style is undoubtedly of the kind that, in order to be tolerable, demands the accompaniment of a lantern with limelight effects. A very large proportion—probably two-fifths—of the space in either volume is occupied with quotations from various standard authorities on the Lake Country and its poets—extracts from De Quincey's *Reminiscences*, for example, from Southey's *Life and Correspondence*, from the *Lives* of Wordsworth (Knight) and of Coleridge (Dykes Campbell), &c.; but these detached passages, though they undoubtedly impart a certain value to the work, are embedded in a mass of Rawnsleian prose which, whether regard be had to the thoughts of which it is the vehicle, or to its intrinsic merits in respect of style, must be pronounced infinitely better adapted to the platform of the parochial lecture hall than to the "pensive citadel" of the literary student.

The subject to which Mr. Rawnsley

addresses himself is one that combines formidable difficulties with attractions of no common kind. It would be hard to conceive anything more fascinating than a theme which includes among its leading topics the personal characteristics and literary productions of Wordsworth, Southey, and De Quincey, of the two Coleridges (father and son), of John Wilson, Harriet Martineau, and Matthew Arnold, not to mention a whole host of lesser lights; while, on the other hand, the fact that this field is not virgin soil, having been already exploited with brilliant results by more than one famous writer, enhances in no small measure the difficulties of the task. That the subject is not utterly threadbare—that it is still possible to find something neither offensively stale nor wholly irrelevant to say upon it—has been recently proved by Mr. Stopford Brooke, who, in his admirable monograph, *Dove Cottage, Wordsworth's Home from 1800 to 1808*, has contrived, within the strictest possible limits, to impart a charm so potent to his simple narrative, that, having once begun to read, we find ourselves unable to lay down the book until we have read it through. But then it is of course necessary, if one desires to write acceptably upon a well-worn theme, that one should first have in one's mind something definite and appropriate to say. And herein, we are persuaded, lies the proper explanation of the fact that Mr. Rawnsley, notwithstanding that he labours at his task with such a hearty good will, has nevertheless wholly failed to produce an interesting book. The truth is that he has not only, like Bishop Warburton, a rage for saying something when there is nothing to be said; but also, unlike that fertile-minded prelate, a rage for saying something when he has nothing to say!

We have searched the original portion of these volumes right through, and have failed to light upon a single thought or sentiment in it that might not have proceeded from "many men, many women, and many children." In a word, if we except the liberal extracts from various famous writers with which Mr. Rawnsley has diversified his pages—no inconsiderable exception, to be sure—the *Literary Associations of the English Lakes* may be honestly described as the triumphant consummation of triviality and platitude.

If it be true, as Prince Hal once upon a time observed, that "he is a blessed fellow who thinks as every man thinks," then indeed must Mr. Rawnsley be numbered among the blessed; for assuredly "never a man's thought in the world keeps the roadway better than his." A sample or two of his amazing talent for humdrum must now be given. His subject being, as we have seen, the literary associations of the Lake Country, he has hardly made a fair start before he must needs turn aside to deliver his views upon the irrelevant question of Coleridge's domestic infelicity. After quoting De Quincey's familiar account of his first meeting with Mrs. Coleridge (in the Chubbs' drawing-room at Bridgewater), the concluding sentence of which runs:—"From this short but uncongenial scene I

gathered, what I afterwards learned redundantly, that Coleridge's marriage had not been a very happy one"—Mr. Rawnsley proceeds:

"De Quincey may have been right, but who was to blame? Was it the constantly unselfish, if unintellectual and rather over-domestic gentle woman, who, for all her fussiness [!], kept a household together for years in the hope that her queer-natured [!] spouse would return to his bairns and superintend their education? or was it the fault of the man of over-strung nerves and constant invalidism [!], of whom Southey once said, 'the moment anything assumed the shape of a duty, Coleridge felt incapable of discharging it, who unhappily sought refuge in opium for ills that it only added to? We cannot pronounce judgment; it is enough for us to know that life was not all roses [!] for the pair who took up residence in the beginning of this century at Greta Hall,' &c."

Now, we ask, can meaningless slip-slop of this kind be said to answer any good purpose? Does it serve to throw any fresh light upon the obscure and most unpleasant question of Coleridge's matrimonial difficulties—a question with which, be it observed, the writer was not in any way called upon to intermeddle? And, if not, what is it but a gratuitous impertinence?

Again, Mr. Rawnsley quotes a passage from the *Grasmere Journal*, in which Dorothy Wordsworth describes how painfully she had been oppressed by the persistent inquisitiveness of Thomas Wilkinson, the Quaker-post.

"Every question," writes the poor woman, "was like the snapping of a little thread about my heart. I was glad when he left me. Then I had time to look at the moon while I was thinking my own thoughts. The moon travelled through the clouds, tingeing them yellow as she passed along with two stars near her, one larger than the other," &c.

Upon which our author platitudinises as follows:—"What a close observer of things in heaven and things on earth Dorothy was!"

Again, of Bishop Watson, of Calgarth, Mr. Rawnsley writes:

"The man who, going up to Cambridge . . . with little knowledge except a sound grounding in mathematics, could win the Professorship of Chemistry without one iota of chemical knowledge up to the hour when he gained it; and then determined to play the same feat with the Royal Chair of Divinity, must have been a remarkable man!"

And then adds:

"Chemistry has made great strides since those days. The Bishop probably never dreamt of Prof. Dewar and his solidified air."

Probably not, indeed, though it would, of course, be unwise to speak too positively on the point! It will be observed that Bishop Watson is spoken of above as a "remarkable" man. This word "remarkable" is a favourite of Mr. Rawnsley's, for the obvious reason that it may, according to the exigencies of the occasion, be taken to mean anything or nothing. Thus, for instance, when writing of the associations connected with Old Brathay, he first describes Charles Lloyd as one who was "no common man," and then proceeds to inform us that "Lloyd published his first volume of poems in 1796,

and, if they are not very remarkable, at least they have been credited with some [!] vigour and originality." And, again, of Mrs. William Calvert, of Windy Brow, he observes:

"Those who have looked upon the pretty little pencil drawing of her, in her quaint scuttle bonnet, or half hat, half bonnet, will see at once—"

See what, in the name of patience? The lengthy protasis sets one all agog with curiosity. Why—

"— what a remarkable face Mrs. Calvert must have had,"

—to be sure!

In truth there is no limit to the number of these harmless nothings, these unmeaning and unprofitable splutterings of the author's pen. Here is another, on which, as we open at random volume ii., our eye casually lights:

Prof. Wilson speaks:

"There is to be seen thence [from the back of Calgarth House] the widest breadth of water, the richest foreground of wood, and the most magnificent background of mountain, not only of Westmoreland, but, believe me, in all the world."

Whereon Mr. Rawnsley observes:

"Strong words for the Professor; but then such a Professor in knowledge of his Westmoreland scenery had a right to use strong words!"

On perusal of which sapient reflection the gentle reader will in his turn, it is to be feared, be sorely tempted to let fall a "strong word" or two by way of comment.

One other instance of the essentially trite and obvious character of our author's remarks, and we have done. It goes without saying that he gives us Hazlitt's oft-quoted description of Coleridge as he was in the winter of 1798, the closing sentence of which, as every one knows, runs after this fashion; "His hair was thin, black, and glossy as the raven's, and fell in smooth masses over his forehead." On this sentence our platitudinarian glosses as follows:

"This long, liberal hair is peculiar to altruists."

Now, if what Mr. Rawnsley intends to say here be what his words do actually convey, viz., that every man who wears his hair long is an altruist, then it follows that in this gloss he merely voices the popular error under which for a time the simple folk of Bleeding Heart Yard (in *Little Dorrit*) laboured, and from which they were ultimately delivered by the shears of the energetic Pancks. We allude to the forcible tonsuring of old Casby, the Patriarch, who, notwithstanding that he fattened on moneys wrung without remorse from his hapless tenants in "the Yard," had contrived to establish and maintain for himself, by sheer force of long, grey, silken locks and broad-brimmed hat, the character of an ardent benefactor of his species. His "long liberal hair" was accepted by the unsophisticated Yard, in spite of his life-long habits of extortion and money-grubbing, as irrefragable proof of his altruistic sentiments.

We have lingered so long over the crying

fault of Mr. Rawnsley's book, that we must be content to leave unnoticed certain other matters which we had marked for animadversion: namely, the too fervid quality and (so to speak) plethoric habit of his prose, the shallowness of his attempts at characterisation, and his lack of tactful discrimination in the choice of material. But probably enough has been already said to show that in our judgment the task attempted in these volumes is one which Mr. Rawnsley, had he been duly alive to the responsibilities of authorship, would never have dreamt of undertaking.

Happily, the book is not all worthless; chap. iv., for example, and parts of chaps. vii. and viii. of vol. i. may be read without offence, and even with positive gratification. Especially pleasing is the story of John Dalton, who was born on September 5, 1766, in the little hamlet of Ecclesfield (*Eaglesfield* on the map at the end of vol. i.), near Cockermouth, to Quaker parents of humble rank, and, after becoming the village preceptor at the age of thirteen, migrated in his sixteenth year to Kendal, where he worked at mathematics under the guidance of Gough, the blind naturalist. In 1793, Dalton was appointed teacher of science in the New College at Manchester; and in 1808 "he took the scientific world by storm with his *New System of Chemical Philosophy*," in which Dalton's Atomic Theory was advanced and expounded. Mr. Rawnsley relates several interesting anecdotes of the great chemist's early life. Coming once upon a time from Kendal to see the old folks at home, he brought his mother a present of what he believed to be a fine pair of silken hose of a sober drab. "Thou hast brought me a pair of grand stockings, John; but what made thee fancy such a high colour? What! I could never go in them to meeting in town." John protests that the stockings are drab. Son Jonathan is called in—he sides with brother John, and pronounces the goods to be of the orthodox colour. Then all Ecclesfield is called together, and the village verdict is "Varra fine stuff, but uncommon scarlet"; and so "the Daltons' humble cottage becomes the birth-place of scientific observation on the phenomenon of colour-blindness." Dalton never married. Once, for a week's space, he was under the bondage of love, having fallen victim to the charms of a young person who descanted "on the use of dephlogisticated marine acid in bleaching, and the effects of opium on the animal system"; but some novel electrical experiments drove the lady out of his head, and he never came in jeopardy again.

Very delightful, too, is the account which Mr. Rawnsley quotes from Mrs. H. M. Wigham's *Bag of Old Letters* of John Dalton's cousin, Elihu Robinson of Ecclesfield, the friend of Thomas Wilkinson of Yanwath, to whom, on one occasion, he sent a letter of kindly invitation (given at page 214 of volume i.), not unworthy, for the dignified simplicity of its harmonious prose, to be placed beside John Milton's famous invitatory sonnet, "To Mr. Lawrence." But for this, as well as for other particulars regarding the tender-hearted "Friend

Robinson," a bare reference to Mr. Rawnsley's pages must now suffice.

As a rule, the dates and other matters of fact given in these volumes are remarkably correct. There are, however, a few errors, which it may perhaps be worth while to point out. Sara Coleridge was born, not in September, 1802 (i. 51), but on either December 22 or 23 in that year—probably on December 23. Coleridge "domiciled himself with Wordsworth at Allan Bank," not in 1807 (i. 57), but in September, 1808. The date given on p. 12, vol. i.—"Wednesday, June 22, 1800," is an impossible one. June 22 in the year 1800 fell, not upon a Wednesday, but upon a Sunday. The date "August, 1823" (ii. 15) should be August, 1825; and it is misleading to say that, on the occasion to which the author refers, Sir W. Scott "was en route for Rokeby," seeing that, in the absence of any news from his friend Morritt, Scott abandoned his intended visit to Rokeby, and started at six o'clock on the morning of August 26 from Lowther Castle direct to Abbotsford. Prof. Dowden no longer "thinks that William Calvert was in Wordsworth's mind when the latter wrote v.-vii. of the *Castle of Indolence Stanzas*" (i. 90). He is now convinced—and rightly—that "Wordsworth describes the countenance and character of Coleridge in the last four stanzas" (*Aldine Wordsworth*, i. 383). There are, moreover, one or two very trifling errors which it is unnecessary to particularise. The two volumes are separately and elaborately indexed, and volume i. is furnished with a map of the Lake District.

T. HUTCHINSON.

Cock Lane and Common Sense. By Andrew Lang. (Longmans.)

Even when one does not wholly agree with Mr. Lang it is always a pleasure to hear what he has to say on subjects of which, like ghosts and folklore, he is, above most men, entitled to speak. And this book was certainly worth writing, and is therefore well worth reading. It is difficult to summarise without misrepresentation, but we may at least try to put the case Mr. Lang is arguing somewhat to this effect. All the world over, for many years, certain phenomena are reported to have occurred that are outside our ordinary every-day experiences. Various explanations have been suggested of them, some obviously absurd, others more satisfactory, but none that to the scientific mind completely accounts for the phenomena in question. It is urged that there is here a subject worthy of careful investigation without prejudice. Mr. Lang is clearly neither "occultist" nor "spiritualist": he is not even convinced of the objectivity of these curious phenomena, he is simply struck by their constant and invariable recurrence, and concerned to point out the problems they offer. Only on the last page of his book does he seem for a moment to quit his scientific and sceptical attitude.

"Now if there is but one spark of real fire to all this smoke, then the present materialistic theories of life and the world must be recon-

sidered. They seem very well established, but so have many other theories seemed that are long gone the way of all things human."

Here there is an assumption, surely, of a very risky character. Even if these phenomena be objective and "real," there is no need to suppose them to be "supernatural," or that they will upset our "materialistic theories," any more than the discovery of electricity, of hypnotism, of a dozen other new provinces of natural knowledge. The working of the human nervous system is not so clear and plain that we can as yet explain why the continuous exhibition of alcohol will determine the common illusions of delirium tremens, yet few scientific men suppose that here is anything more than the symptoms of brain disorder. The illusions of insanity, again, can be classed under comparatively few species: at most we may conclude that the brain and other ganglia appear occasionally, under conditions we are not yet acquainted with, to respond to stimuli that, in a normal state of things, they do not regard. The whole animistic theory must be kept out of the question, and the ordinary scientific tests rigorously applied without *parti pris*. The history of the past explanations of these phenomena is one thing, a part of the history of scientific theories and religious ideas; research into the phenomena themselves is a wholly separate matter, a matter for the physiologist, the physicist, the psychologist.

Mr. Lang may be interested to know that the falling or stumbling spell was known and used in the Midlands within a very few years ago; that levitation, ascribed to the direct agency of the devil, was also believed in by English peasants of this century; in one case the "levite" was borne along over the tops of a row of elms, so close that he could, as he touched the highest twigs, hear "the young rooks calling for bread and cheese." It should be mentioned also that Mr. Lane, in the end, was doubtful of the *bona fides* of his sick son, though at first he had been convinced of the impossibility of imposture. Mr. Kellar's experiences are, of modern descriptions of magical phenomena, perhaps the most surprising (excepting the New Zealand stories Mr. Lang has himself gathered), but they certainly require corroboration from other witnesses.

There are a few repetitions in the book which might easily be removed; but they were, probably, almost inevitable from the way the volume has grown into its present shape, and the reader will not be much disturbed by them. The humour and freshness of the style is unflagging and unforced, and distinctly helps the necessary presentment of a vast mass of detail. It is useless to try and pick out the plums of such a rich pudding: one can only recommend the reader warmly to the book itself as one of the most interesting treatises existing on a subject that, by reason of its mystery, its bearings on numerous much-debated questions, its extraordinary difficulties, must long have a peculiar fascination. Mr. Lang has certainly put a strong case in an excellent light.

F. YORK POWELL.

Select Statutes and other Constitutional Documents illustrative of the Reigns of Elizabeth and James I. Edited by G. W. Prothero. (Oxford: Clarendon Press.)

THIS volume supplies a want which must have been felt by all historical students, by giving us in a concise form the most important documentary materials for a critical period in our national annals.

There is no need to say much of Mr. Prothero's qualifications for the task of editor; they will be readily appreciated by all who have any knowledge of his previous labours in similar fields. It would be unjust and invidious to draw comparisons between his introductory survey and Bishop Stubbs's masterly preface to the *Select Charters*. It is rarely, indeed, that so much first-class historical work is contained in such a brief compass as is the case with the latter; but the former certainly performs admirably the function of serving as a guide to the subject-matter of the book.

The two reigns here dealt with present, amid some features of superficial resemblance, many more of fundamental opposition. The contrast has often been drawn between the strong and popular despotism of the Tudors and the weak and unpopular tyranny of the Stuarts; and the difference is forcibly brought before our mind by a comparison of the utterances of the last of the former dynasty with those of the first of the latter.

Elizabeth was often autocratic and imperious enough in her tone, but she rarely forgot the essential nature of the Tudor monarchy as a dictatorship founded on the popular will. She could issue orders to her parliaments in a sufficiently peremptory fashion as to what they might say and what they were to leave unsaid.

"Privilege of speech is granted, but you must know what privilege you have; not to speak every one what he listeth, or what cometh in his brain to utter that; but your privilege is, aye or no."

She would tolerate no interference with her prerogative, especially in ecclesiastical matters. In a message delivered to the Speaker of the Commons in 1593, she forbade the House to

"meddle with matters of state, or in causes ecclesiastical," and "wondered that any would be of so high commandment to attempt a thing contrary to that which she hath so expressly forbidden, wherefore with this she was highly displeased."

But with all this she knew how far she could go with prudence, and could yield frankly and with dignity when occasion required, as in the memorable instance of the monopolies. And while, in fact, almost absolute in her power, she never formulated such theories of its unbounded extent as were often to be heard from the lips of her successor. As Mr. Prothero says, with truth, of James I.: "The notions of the prerogative set forth in his speeches and writings transcend anything claimed by the Tudors." Englishmen had been willing to put up with much at the hands of a vigorous and popular sovereign, but they were by no means

disposed to listen with patience to such language as the following from a ruler who possessed neither of these characters:

"It is atheism and blasphemy to dispute what God can do: good Christians content themselves with His will revealed in His word, so it is presumption and high contempt in a subject to dispute what a king can do, or say that a king cannot do this or that; but rest in that which is the king's revealed will in his law."

Practically absolute as the Tudors had been, they had never claimed a power entirely independent of the national will as expressed by its representatives. The theory, even under Henry VIII., was that complete sovereignty resided with the union of the king and the estates of the realm in parliament, and not with either separately. As a writer of Elizabeth's reign expresses it:

"The most high and absolute power of the realm of England consisteth in the parliament . . . which representeth and hath the power of the whole realm, both the head and the body. For every Englishman is intended to be there present either in person or by procuration and attorney . . . from the prince (be he king or queen) to the lowest person of England. And the consent of the parliament is taken to be every man's consent."

In the Stuart view, however, complete sovereignty belonged to the king alone, and the parliament existed merely by his good pleasure.

"In the parliament (which is nothing else but the head court of the king and his vassals) the laws are but craved by his subjects, and only made by him at their roagation and with their advice; for, albeit, the king make daily statutes and ordinances enjoining such pains thereto as he thinks meet, without any advice of parliament or estates, yet it lies in the power of no parliament to make any kind of law or statute without his sceptre be to it, for giving it the force of a law. . . . And as ye see it manifest that the king is over-lord of the whole land, so is he master over every person that inhabiteth the same, having power over the life and death of every one of them."

a doctrine which James put into practical operation almost as soon as he entered England, when he caused a pickpocket to be hanged without trial on his progress from Scotland to London, thus violating one of the best known and most valued provisions of the Great Charter.

In fact, it was no longer possible to hold to the theory of the conjoint sovereignty of king and parliament when the two began to be at variance; and the pretensions of James to absolute dominion led, if not in his reign, yet in that of his son, to the opposite doctrine, which was in reality a return to old English traditions, that the national assembly was the supreme power, and that the monarch was accountable to it.

A large portion of the documents in this volume refer, as might be expected, to ecclesiastical matters; and it cannot fail to be remarked, even by the most superficial reader, how the State was the primary agent in making religious changes in England, and how completely subordinate the Church was to the civil power. In this point there was no dispute in principle between the sovereign and the parliament. There were wide differences as to the manner in which the authority of the State

was to be exercised, but neither party dreamed of allowing the Church to govern itself. The High Churchmen of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries must be regarded by their modern successors as decidedly remiss in asserting the spiritual independence of the clergy. No protest was raised on their side against such peremptory instructions as were issued by James I. to the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1622, prescribing minutely what topics might be treated of in the pulpit, and forbidding preaching on many of the most exciting subjects of theological controversy.

The first Protestants who altogether denied the right of the Sovereign to interfere in religious matters were the small body of the Brownists, afterwards better known as Independents. Their founder thus expresses himself:

"The magistrates may do nothing concerning the church, but only civilly and as civil magistrates: that is to say, they have not that authority over the church as to be prophets or priests or spiritual kings, as they are magistrates over the same, but only to rule the commonwealth in outward justice . . . to compel religion, to plant churches by power, and to force a submission to ecclesiastical government by laws and penalties belongeth not to them."

The phraseology of the statutes of the two reigns presents some curious features, particularly in the different way in which past sovereigns are mentioned. Thus, in the preamble of the Act of Supremacy, the parliament addressing Elizabeth, describe Henry VIII. as "your most dear father of worthy memory," and Edward VI. as "your majesty's most dear brother," in whose reigns "divers good laws and statutes were made and established," while Mary, in whose reign "all the said good laws and statutes were all clearly repealed and made void," is less respectfully designated simply "your highness' sister."

Elizabeth herself draws the same invidious distinction between her predecessors in several of her public utterances. Henry VIII. is "the late king of famous memory, our dear father," Edward VI. "our dear late brother"; both are collectively styled "the noble kings of famous memory," while Mary is only "our late sister," without any adjective of praise or affection.

On the vexed question of the origin of the Star Chamber Mr. Prothero expresses a decided opinion in favour of the substantial identity of the later court of the name with the tribunal established by the statute of the third year of Henry VII. The opposite view, which has been maintained by some eminent historians, that Henry VII.'s court ceased to exist within the space of half a century from its establishment and had no continuity with the Star Chamber of Elizabeth's reign, is certainly *prima facie* less probable, and "is opposed to the tradition of the sixteenth century, which, in a matter of so recent date, may probably be trusted." The question is, however, one of considerable complexity, owing to the fact that the judicial powers of the Privy Council existed in an ill-defined form long before the Tudor period, and that "only a part, and that probably the smaller part, of the jurisdiction exercised by the Star Chamber in the

seventeenth century could be based on the Act of 1487," but was derived from the ancient powers of the council. What appears to have taken place was an amalgamation of two bodies originally distinct, the council as a judicial body and the court of Henry VII., the process being facilitated by the fact that "the court was at first little more than a committee of the council."

R. SEYMOUR LONG.

The Autobiography of a Boy. By G. S. Street. (Elkin Mathews & John Lane.)

THIS is a book concerning which it were impossible to be critical. It is full of distinguished humour; it is irresistibly, but never blatantly, truthful; the sarcasm pierces with rapier-like neatness. One hundred and seventeen pages contain the last, even as they utter the first, word on a fascinating subject. The very faults seem to be of necessity, akin to the matter, and not less valuable than virtues. In short, the reviewer, be he never so conscientious, can only praise. Tiny as the volume is, it is a masterpiece. Mr. Street possesses the rare gift of explaining by suggestion the most complicated moods. Not the weakest intellect can wholly mistake his meaning.

When these sketches originally appeared in the *National Observer*, the cleverness of them was recognisable; but as separate items they missed something of their aim. To be thoroughly understood, to achieve their proper meed of success, they must be read together as parts of a finished whole. And this demand is easy of fulfilment, for no one who begins the book will put it down unread. Nor is it astonishing; for Mr. Street asks one's attention for barely a hundred minutes, and gives in return a quite priceless treasure.

Tubby is indeed a new immortal. He stands for all time as the typical aesthete, the perfect example of the *fin de siècle* youth of Modern Oxford, the individual whose affectations may never develop into mannerisms. It is his mission, so hopelessly misunderstood, to live beautifully. Were they not so pertinacious he would ignore the vulgar cares of life, and his smile of "infinite indulgence" is no mean shield against the worst calamities. How true it is, he exclaims—and who shall doubt him?—

"that genius, to give the world of its sweetest, must be unhampered by sordid cares. Of late my muse has had no heart to sing. I came across a paper, tossed aside a while ago, which almost brought tears to my eyes. On the top I had written: 'A Dirge of Desire Dead,' and there followed a few lines which sorrow herself seemed to have dictated to song, and then—rows of squalid, hideous figures, and vulgar commercial symbols. Surely, I mused, here is all the pathos of life."

His was the right to be biliously angry with the world, had he so willed, for his "Ballad of Shameful Kisses" won for him only the title of "Tubby the Troubadour"; moreover, a companion commented, "I blush for you, Tubby. I think you're a very wicked young man." Yet was his university career not really a failure, though prematurely closed. "His humour of being

carried in a sedan chair, swathed in blankets and reading a Latin poet, from his rooms to the Turkish bath, is still remembered in his college."

Fate, the traditionary enemy of genius, was Tubby's foe. The ambition he nurtured was modest enough to have won success, but did not: "to be regarded as a man to whom no chaste woman should be allowed to speak." Once he reviewed some books for a newspaper, but a couplet from Shelley was all he could honestly repeat by way of criticism. His father regarded him as a fool, yet he could say in all sincerity, "I have never fallen into the mistake of despising my father because he is old-fashioned and a little dull." At times, indeed, the "old fellow's" homely good sense sufficed to soothe a son's weary intellect and jarring nerves. At last the "pink" story and a little speech to a bishop went far towards compelling a crisis. Tubby is now in Canada. The last chapter, most fatuous and most delicious of all, sums up his career and forecasts his future:

"This day I leave my native land. It is five in the morning; the last of my companions who spent the evening with me is gone, and I sit in my lonely room to end this account of my life so far before sleeping a few hours. When they dine to-night I shall be far away. It is intensely dramatic. A weaker man might well shed tears, but my eyes are dry."

Little cause had Tubby to weep, though his self-restraint is sufficiently pathetic, for his conduct was never less immaculate, intelligently judged, than his taste and his trousers. Canada, too, was not without a unique interest for him. A certain refined lust for slaughter seized on him as a pleasing and novel emotion. The forests and the mountains, "or whatever they are," loomed with consolation. Evening dress was easily abandoned at the thought of that "red sash" he had chosen to be the keynote of his scheme.

But Tubby's capital, one learns with expectant interest, is not large. His editor shrewdly prophesies that in six months his friend will return: not because he shuns labour, for with pride has he told us that "In the true sense of the word there is more work in a ballad of mine" than in all his father's soldiering. No, he will return because of those "sordid difficulties" from which none but millionaires escape. To many of us his reappearance will be welcome, though he deems us less grateful than cats. Maybe, too, he will gladly dine with us again and adjourn, after coffee and cigarettes, to "that barbarous plush place" whereof he once expressed himself so weary.

PERCY ADDLESHAW.

The Diatessaron of Tatian. By J. Hamlyn Hill, B.D. (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark.)

THIS is a carefully planned piece of work and will probably take its place at once as an indispensable aid to the student of Tatian's Harmony. Mr. Hill has had the way cleared for him by the labours of his predecessors. Dr. Zahn, Prof. Fuller, Dr. Wace, Prof. Hemphill, Prof. Harris, have all contributed in various degrees to the

elucidation of the many problems which were suggested by the pioneer work of Moesinger and Ciasca; and in the present edition full use has been made of their investigations.

The main sources from which the *Diatessaron* has to be reconstructed are, as is well known, two in number. We possess, on the one hand, an Armenian version of the Commentary on Tatian's work written by Ephraem the Syrian; and, on the other, an Arabic version of the *Diatessaron* itself which is extant in two MSS. Ephraem's Commentary was made accessible in 1876 by Moesinger in a Latin translation; the Arabic Harmony was published, with a Latin version by Ciasca, in 1888. It might seem at first sight as if Ciasca's book would bring us much nearer to the original Tatian than would any reproduction of Ephraem's Commentary; but it so happens that, although in the Arabic version we have without doubt the *Diatessaron* in substance, yet it is there only in a revised form as regards its text. For we cannot be sure that Tatian's work was turned into Arabic from its original Syriac before the eleventh century; and long before that date we know that the Peshito version of the New Testament had replaced in common use that older Syriac version which Tatian seems to have followed. This disturbing element is not present to the same extent in the portions of the *Diatessaron* embedded in Ephraem's Commentary; and thus, even though the latter is only preserved in Armenian, it affords more reliable evidence where we are concerned with questions of reading.

However, we cannot reconstruct the whole of the *Diatessaron* from Ephraem's Commentary; and so Mr. Hill offers us, as the main part of his book, an English version (the first that has appeared) of the Arabic Harmony. It is, perhaps, a matter for regret that this was not made direct from the Arabic, but through the medium of Ciasca's Latin. Mr. Hill, indeed, is careful to assure us that his work has been corrected from the Arabic by a competent scholar, and no doubt a fair degree of accuracy has been thus reached. But yet one cannot help thinking that it would have been better had the English version been made in the first instance from the Arabic, and subsequently tested by the aid of the Latin rendering already published. No such criticism is applicable to the treatment of the Ephraem fragments in this volume. Mr. Hill has been fortunate in obtaining the services of Prof. Robinson, who has translated direct from the Armenian MSS. the portions of the Commentary in which the *Diatessaron* is preserved. This part of the book before us adds, in important respects, to our materials for the critical study of Tatian's text.

In the appendices Mr. Hill has brought together, in a form very convenient for reference, a large body of valuable matter; and it is only due to him to say that his book, as it stands, will give the English reader a clearer idea of the work of Tatian than any other in the market. His English version of the Arabic Harmony brings out

with sufficient clearness the significant fact (now no longer a matter of controversy) that Tatian's Four Gospels were the canonical four; and for the purposes of textual criticism the appendices on the Ephraem fragments and on the variants in the Arabic text are of the highest interest.

J. H. BERNARD.

NEW NOVELS.

The Potter's Thumb. By Flora A. Steel. In 3 vols. (Heinemann.)

Mary Fenwick's Daughter. By Beatrice Whitby. In 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

A Cumberer of the Ground. By Constance Smith. In 3 vols. (Methuen.)

A Hidden Chain. By Dora Russell. In 3 vols. (Digby, Long & Co.)

'Midst the Wild Carpathians. Translated by R. N. Bain from the Hungarian of Maurus Jokai. (Chapman & Hall.)

A Consul's Passenger. By Harry Lander. (Bliss, Sands & Foster.)

Young Sam and Sabina. By Tom Cobbleigh. (Fisher Unwin.)

In *The Potter's Thumb* the intimate knowledge of Indian life and the remarkable power of projecting Indian atmosphere and colour which Mrs. Steel has shown in her shorter tales appear with plenty of space—and with the advantage or disadvantage thereto appertaining. In the present case it is almost wholly advantage. There is at least as much scope for description and evocation of scene in a connected story as in the same bulk of sketches; and there is of course much greater scope for character-drawing. In the latter respect Mrs. Steel deserves no small praise for the contrast—sharp, but by no means forced or obtruded—of the Indian courtesan, Chandni, and the English girl, Rose Tweedie. The former is, by the necessity of the case, more conventional and less living than the latter, who is a really capital study, not in the least apparently out-of-the-way, and, therefore, not in the least really commonplace. Of the other figures who complete the scheme of presentation of feminine character (a very complete and ambitious scheme) the girl Azizah is much more of an "academy" than Chandni, and Gwen Boynton, the peccant widow, is less living than Rose. But both are good in their way, as also (for we must not forget her) is the Eurasian, Beatrice Norma Elflida ("Her Highness"), who is a new and distinctly promising type, though she is not, like the others, a type of race and character, but of cross-breeding and artificial circumstance. Nor for those readers, who care more for incident than character, will the fortunes of the Ayodhya pot and its precious things be disappointing, while the setting is as good as ever. We may, however, take this opportunity of pointing out a little more in detail what we meant on a former occasion by saying that Mrs. Steel does not "punctuate" her story sufficiently. More than one or two readers, we can vouch for it, have felt in reading *The Potter's Thumb* a slight bewilderment and puzzlement over the course of the

action—the intertwining of the fraud about the pot (itself rather complicated) with the intrigues of the Hodinuggur people to get the sluices opened. Some have said that the suicide of the hero is insufficiently motivated, and that the quickly following death of his friend Fitzgerald is gratuitous and not wholly probable; while others object that the Simla steeplechase and some other matters have a false air of connexion with the story and a real irrelevance which is disappointing. We do not endorse all these criticisms; but we do think that what Mrs. Steel chiefly needs, in order to make quite the best use of her remarkable faculty and acquirement, is the *jeu serré* of construction and arrangement. In other words, she wants what, among the equal immortals, Fielding had and Thackeray had not.

The very beginning of *Mary Fenwick's Daughter* is somehow not appetising, and the very end is a little wanting in crispness; but the greater part of the book is good. It is, like so many others, an attempt to sketch the young woman of the period; but it differs from most such attempts by being quite clean, and not in the least dull. Mary Fenwick (or "Bab," as she is called to distinguish her from her mother) is not a "new woman," which follows from the fact that she is a lady; but she is hodiernal, first, in being very athletic, and, secondly, in not ostensibly feeling the necessity of anything more than comradeship with the opposite sex. Miss Whitby has indulged in an excellent irony by showing that "Bab," restive in the extreme to her first lover, who is altogether a good fellow, submits to be bullied in a sort of fascinated fashion by her second, an authoritative little coxcomb, whom she has once refused. But it is perhaps rather a Rarefied than a Petruchian manner of taming her to break her back, expose her to jilting by her selfish intended, and then throw her in the condition of damaged goods, a penitent and an invalid, on the hands of good cousin Jack. However, the process was no doubt effective (at least till she got quite well), and it might have happened. Some of the scenes and characters are excellent.

In *A Cumberer of the Ground* Miss Constance Smith has attacked an old problem—How far ought you to give weight in choosing a wife or a husband to other people's requests, to unguarded precontracts of your own, and so forth, instead of simply marrying the man or the woman you love most at the time of asking, and sticking to him or her? Dorothy Temple, the heroine of Miss Smith's novel, makes what we hold to be the wrong choice, though she sticks to it nobly. Verdict: right in sticking, not right in choosing. That is to say, this is our verdict, not Miss Smith's, who has laudably abstained from taking a didactic side in the matter. The book is a clever one, though to a certain extent undigested. We did not think that anyone could do the mad dog trick with a difference; but it is here quite satisfactorily freshened up; and many other fences are handsomely negotiated. The weakest part of the book, as so frequently happens with ladies' novels, is to be found in the male characters. It

remains true that of women drawn by men you may find one in a thousand, but of men drawn by women scarcely that. Miss Austen could draw men because she knew exactly where to stop, and merely drew them as she saw them, so that they were true, if not the whole truth; George Eliot never drew a real man, though Tito and Grandcourt came near to reality; and Miss Smith is not a Jane Austen or even a George Eliot. Her hero, the suddenly enriched Lyon, is a stick—a decidedly good stick, but still sticky. The wicked Travers is a lay figure; and his brother, the orthodox, intellectual, self-sacrificing scholar and divine, is flawed with all sorts of impossibilities. Nevertheless, the book has something more than glimmerings, and Dorothy Temple is not wholly unworthy of her delightful namesake.

We have often thought that Miss Dora Russell is the most undervalued novelist in her own class and way now living and writing. She is the sole heir of Miss Braddon; and though she does not keep up with the times as her great exemplar does, and commits many grotesque simplicities which that exemplar avoids, she has a most unusual knack of weaving off the loom a solid web of fiction that really does not ravel up or slit across as most of them do. Personally, we do not care much for the kind at any time; and it must be admitted that Miss Russell does not put herself to the expense of any "literary" efforts over it. But her stuff does its own work in its own way right craftsworthily, and that is something, nay, much. *A Hidden Chain* is not much better than its brethren, but it is not at all worse than the run of them.

We are always rather reluctant to pronounce judgment on a translated book of which we do not know the original; and we do not know the original of *Midst the Wild Carpathians*. But it is, we believe, the favourite in Hungary among the historical novels of its popular author; and though it by no means seems to us, in Mr. Bain's very well written translation, to come up to the ideal of that magnificent and difficult kind, it has its merits. There is plenty of interesting incident, and the general picture of the wild, half-oriental, wholly unfamiliar, society of Transylvania in the seventeenth century is given vigorously enough. But there is next to no character-drawing: the two most elaborate studies—those of the wise Princess Apafi and of her valiant Don Juan of a brother-in-law, the magnate Banfi—do not reach the full point of lifelikeness; while the incidents are heaped with an undramatic lavishness which G. P. R. James sometimes avoided, and Eugène Sue seldom fell into. Azrael (is Azrael a common woman's name?), the naughty Turkish concubine, is not alive at all, and her panther belongs to the same menagerie as the white bear of *Han d'Islande*. But there is vivacity if not life, and bustle if not action; and we own frankly that we read the book through.

A Consul's Passenger is a little slight. The breaking up of the operatic troupe at Nice is well told, and the purgatory of the hero, Billy Ashenden, who has to work his

passage as a deck hand, still better. But the love interest which the author has thought proper to weave in is very slight and strained. The heroine is nothing; Julius Nachsinnender, the amiable Teuton, is a marionette; and the German, which Mr. Lander or the printer has put into his mouth, is a fearful and wonderful lingo.

Of *Young Sam and Sabina*, on the other hand (except that the gentleman interloper between the personages of the title is not very good), we can speak in terms of unalloyed commendation. It is what, for want of a better word, modern England appears to be agreed to call an "Idyll"—a Somerset idyll—an idyll of the marshy plains that stretch by Parret and Tone. And it is extremely well done, with enough dialect to give it a zest, but not enough, we hope, to disgust those feeble folk who can put up with nothing but newspaper English, with local colour justly put on and not overdone, with live touches of character and scene. Let Mr. "Tom Cobbleigh" give us much more also.

GEORGE SAINTSBURY.

SOME BOOKS ABOUT THE COUNTRY.

Scotch Deerhounds and their Masters. By George Cupples. With a Biographical Sketch of the Author by James Hutchinson Stirling. (Blackwoods.) This handsome volume has a melancholy interest. It is the posthumous work—and in some sense the life-work—of one whose name is known to a generation that is now passing away as the author of *The Green Hand*, that novel of the sea which ranks with almost the best of Maryatt's. Mr. Cupples also published books on Emerson and Christopher North, and moved among, though somewhat aloof from, the leaders of literary society in Edinburgh. But that to which he was devoted above all other things was the honour of the old Scottish deerhounds. Though not a sportsman himself, it was the supreme qualities of the breed for strength and courage that attracted him. His aim was not to win prizes at dog-shows, but to rear animals that should maintain their reputation among Scottish emigrants in the Far West and at the Antipodes. His reward has come, though late, in a form which he would have himself most desired. Enthusiastic Scotsmen in New Zealand, with the Governor at their head, have furnished the subscriptions by which the production of the present book was rendered possible. And it must be admitted that the book is not one for all tastes. Mr. Cupples so worshipped his deer-hound that he persuaded himself to regard it as the Palladium of the Celtic race. Wherever there are Celts, there there must also be deerhounds; and wherever there are deerhounds, there also Celts must have been, at some time or another. The fallacy of arguing from language to race is surpassed by this, for it is evident that nothing can be more variable than a highly domesticated animal. But Mr. Cupples was allured, rather than daunted, by the quicksands of philological ethnology. Nearly half the present volume is occupied with a pseudo-learned discussion about the aboriginal inhabitants of the Caucasus, and their connexion with the ancient Iberians and the modern Albanians, with allusions also to Hyksos, Berbers, and Basques. A good more of the kind has apparently been left in MS., of which we cannot recommend the publication. It would, however, be unjust to Mr. Cupples's memory to imply that the entire book is occupied with a chimaera. The early chapters

contain an historical account of all that is known about the Scottish deerhound during the present century, based mainly upon personal communications made to the author several years ago. It is curious that so little should be ascertained about the breed in the last century, and that so little use should be made of it in actual sport at the present time. No less an authority than Mr. Horatio Ross lays it down that it is "a great mistake to use dogs for either recovering wounded or coursing cold deer." It seems probable, therefore, that future generations will be acquainted with deerhounds only at champion dog-shows or in the pages of Walter Scott. Even if that be so, Mr. Cupples's monograph will become the more valuable, as a record of the breed while traditions of its achievements in Highland deer-forests are still fresh. We must not forget to add that the volume is enriched with a portrait of the author, and with several admirable reproductions of drawings of famous dogs bred by him.

"THE BOOKLOVER'S LIBRARY."—*Walton and Some Earlier Writers on Fish and Fishing*. By R. B. Marston. (Elliot Stock.) This pleasant, chatty volume is just the book to thrust into the pannier and read at noon-tide by the riverside during the "approaching time of the Fly and the Cork," as Sir H. Wotton says. The author disarms criticism by avowing at the outset that the lover of the *Compleat Angler* need not expect much that is new concerning it, and it is not probable that much more will be known of Walton than is here so carefully put together. There are chapters also on Dame Juliana Berners, Leonard Mascall, John Denny ("J.D.") and Gervase Markham; but the same account must be given of them. They form cheerful piscatory reading, but are somewhat superficial. Most people will prefer the author's bibliographical remarks on early Waltons and kindred matters. He shows that the market value of a first edition of *The Compleat Angler* in 1816 was about £4 4s. A short time ago £235 was asked for one, and (like so many rare angling books) it went to America. When Mr. Marston writes practically on trout breeding, and on the little attention now paid by landowners to ponds and streams, his remarks are entirely to the point. It is a pity that more people do not adopt his most sensible advice. The Fordige trout of Walton that "bit not for hunger but wantonness" is identified by Mr. Marston with the Bull Trout. This fish is so essentially a northern form that Yarrell's belief of the Fordige trout being merely a salmon trout has always seemed the more probable. Before this point can be settled, however, many a generation of anglers will have gone to its rest. Were a piscatorial enthusiast desirous of knowing something of Colonel Venables, Barker, and other great names of the craft in the old days, at the same time that he brought his piscatorial keenness to a still sharper edge, no more delightful volume of fishing gossip could be put into the hands than Mr. Marston's prettily printed little book.

"CLIMBING IN THE BRITISH ISLES."—*I. England*. By W. P. Haskett Smith. (Longmans.) Not a few stay-at-home people probably learnt for the first time, from a chapter in the Badminton volume on *Mountaineering*, that climbing in the British Isles has become a special cult, with its headquarters at Wastdale. The first attraction seems to have been the apparently inaccessible Pillar Rock, which has now been ascended from all four points of the compass. Then it was discovered that the Lake District supplies not only unsurpassed opportunities for rock climbing, but also training in wintertime for the use of the ice-axe. The cult has now reached such a stage that every pinnacle and gully has received an appropriate name, and first ascents are duly recorded with

name and date. Even the horrid Screens overhanging Wastwater have been scaled. Of this new development of "sport" Mr. Haskett Smith is the coryphaeus. For though his little book purports to deal with the whole of England (excluding Wales), a great deal more than nine-tenths of it is devoted to the Lake district, the only other localities mentioned being the chalk-cliffs near Dover, the coast of Cornwall, and the Tors on Dartmoor. In view of the dangers of amateur rashness, it is probably just as well that information should be limited to the region which has been made fairly safe by accumulated experience. We cannot praise the mode of arrangement, which ought to have been topographical; but there can be no doubt that the excellent illustrations will add largely to the utility of the volume.

Ladies in the Field: Sketches of Sport. Edited by the Lady Greville. (Ward & Downey.) Not only in politics and literature is woman determined to show that she is no longer the "lesser man"; she would fain cope with the other sex in her amusements. Thirteen ladies fond of outdoor sport in some form or other have here written essays on their respective recreations. The book itself may thus be deemed woman's manifesto that she is "almost on a level with MAN," as one of the authoresses puts it. Naturally, these sketches are of varying degrees of excellence, but all are sensible and amusing. Miss Anstruther Thomson's paper on Team and Tandem Driving is full of good humour and excellent stories. That written on "The Wife of the M. F. H.," by Mrs. Chaworth Masters, abounds in thoughtfulness for others and sound common sense. She would have a master of foxhounds' wife, from the moment she steps out of her carriage at a meet, be a *Dea ex machina*, who should soothe the ruffled farmers, rebuke by her example people who leave gates open and gallop over young wheat, and even fill up all her husband's omissions and forgetfulnesses. He has grave responsibilities, and she ought to be nothing less than an attendant conscience to him and a moral policeman to all delinquents. Mrs. E. R. Pennell adopts a thoroughgoing hedonistic position; she deems "our amusements, after all, the main thing in life," which appears a slightly immature philosophy. How "a bicyclist can scorch (sic) in triumph along the tiniest foot-path" surely requires a little explanation for envious and benighted man. Lady Greville herself is so enamoured of riding that she gives, as her "advice to girls, to take a riding man for a husband." A man of somewhat old-fashioned ideas on the sights and sounds which ladies should avoid would scarcely deem participation in the slaughter of a deer-drive as described by Diane Chasseresse conducive to the refinement and tenderness of womanhood. Tiger-shooting, rifle and covert-shooting might well be left, he would also think, to the sterner sex. Punting appears an exceedingly graceful exercise for a skilful young woman; but on a blazing day in summer, especially when the pole finds no bottom or sticks in the mud, it leads to unpleasant exhibitions, to say the least. Miss Salaman, however, recommends it. Riding, whether in an English fox hunt or in Ireland and India, claims most votaries in this book. It serves the moralist as a useful mark to show how far the aspirations of women have advanced, and, while amusing an idle man, will benefit women of leisure by suggesting amusements which all entail a closer study of nature.

Twelve Years' Residence on the West Coast of Scotland. By Captain J. Mason. (Gurney & Jackson.) Although this little book is a record of sport with rod and gun, it cannot be affirmed that it advances the cause of either shooting or natural history; the reader finds him-

self wondering how so little that is noteworthy resulted from so many years of sport. Every page, however, shows kindness of heart, and deep sympathy with the tone of thought and inhabitants of the Western Highlands. There is much enthusiasm, too, for the moor and its grouse and blackcock. Valuable hints may be picked out here and there on taking moors, on heather burning, on the dogs best suited for grouse-shooting, and the like. Captain Mason does not care for a great slaughter of game by driving it on well-stocked hills, but sensibly prefers a pleasant day of exercise with a friend and a reasonable bag. His moor was not celebrated, and has evidently been much shot over before he took it; but his friends and he obtained 12,422 head of game in the twelve years of his tenancy. Without being able to congratulate the author on his powers as a writer, it may be asserted that his book is in good taste throughout, and will pleasantly while away half-an-hour while a sportsman is speeding to the north.

Travels in a Tree-Top. By Charles Conrad Abbott. (Elkin Mathews & John Lane.) Mr. Abbott has produced a sufficiently readable book of talk about the country. It is furnished with the usual naturalists' index; nevertheless, the talk is more personal than scientific. The author's observation of nature, if not profound, is intelligent and, as a rule, sympathetic. He tells of various experiments he has made to prove the intelligence of animals and birds, gives personal reminiscences, and a variety of anecdotes, more or less humorous and entertaining. Throughout the whole runs a strain of very mild philosophising. There is a distinct flavour of Thoreau about the book, as there is, now, about so many American books of this class. As a consequence, the concluding essay on "Dead Leaves" reminds us of Thoreau's own discourse on "Fallen Leaves" in his essay called "Autumnal Tints," and it must be owned that Mr. Abbott's effort does not gain by the inevitable comparison. Still, in justice be it said, a writer may be far behind this delicate and graceful piece of Thoreau's work and yet possess unquestionable merit. Perhaps the best thing in the book is the definition of a town quoted from "A queer old character that had lived all his life in the country":—"It is a good place to dump down what we don't want on the farm." On the whole, we are disposed to pronounce this book of Mr. Abbott's good and a promise of something better.

WE must content ourselves with commending heartily the series entitled *The Country Month by Month* (Bliss, Sands & Foster), of which we have already received five volumes. It is not difficult to distinguish the contributions of the two authors: Prof. G. S. Boulger, who deals with the plant-world under such headings as "In the River Meads," or "By the Brink of the Sea"; and Mrs. J. A. Owen, who has learnt her intimate knowledge of wild life, furred and feathered, from "A Son of the Marshes." It was a happy idea to tell townspeople what they may expect to find in their country wanderings month by month. And the idea has been excellently carried out, in simple language, but yet with that literary skill which the example of Richard Jefferies has led us to demand. A word of praise is also due to the publishers for the neatness of the print and binding. The volumes deserve to live long after the year for which they are written.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. GLADSTONE'S translation into English verse of the Odes of Horace, including the *Carmen Saeculare*, will be published shortly, in large crown octavo, by Mr. John Murray, the

same firm which issued his first book, *The State in its Relations with the Church*, just fifty-six years ago. That book, we may add, was so successful as to pass through four editions in the course of three years.

VOLUME III. of Canon Liddon's *Life of Pusey* will be published by Messrs. Longman & Co. in the course of the autumn. A fourth volume is still wanted to complete the work.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW & Co. announce a new book of travel by Mrs. Howard Vincent, the wife of the member for Sheffield. Under the title of *China to Peru*, it gives an account of her journey through South America and over the Andes. It will have numerous illustrations.

MR. AUSTIN DOBSON will publish, through Messrs. Chatto & Windus, early in the autumn, a second series of *Eighteenth-Century Vignettes*. There will be a limited large-paper edition.

MR. STOPFORD BROOKE has been offered and has accepted the Lowell Lectureship at Boston this autumn. His subject will be "Modern English Literature."

MR. W. ROBERTS, the editor of the *Bookworm*, is preparing for publication during the autumn a volume entitled *A Book-hunter in London*. Historical and Personal Studies of Book-collectors and Book-collecting.

MR. WILLIAM MORRIS announces that his Kelmscott Press edition of Chaucer, so long in preparation, is now likely to make an appearance at the middle of next year. He has also in the press a new romance, entitled *The Wood beyond the World*, a new edition of his *Life and Death of Jason*, and a volume of poems by Mr. Theodore Watts.

MR. JOHN MARTINEAU'S *Life of Sir Bartle Frere* will be published by Mr. John Murray, it is hoped, early in the autumn. All Sir Bartle's papers have been placed at the disposal of his biographer.

A NEW and revised edition of the late Prof. Robertson Smith's *Religion of the Semites* is now being prepared for publication by Dr. Sutherland Black and Mr. C. Michie Smith, the Professor's brother.

THE Roxburghe Press will issue early in August *The Mountain Lake and Other Poems*, translated, with a biography and bibliography, from the works of Friedrich von Bodenstedt, by Miss Julia Preston.

DR. A. CONAN DOYLE'S first book, *Micah Clarke*, which was not very well received at the time of its appearance, has now sold to the number of 30,000 copies.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL have in the press *Incidents of Foreign Sport and Travel*, by Colonel Pollok, an old Madras officer.

MESSRS. ALEXANDER GARDNER, of Paisley, have in the press a volume entitled *Curious Episodes in Scottish History*, by Mr. R. Scott Fittis.

MESSRS. WARD & DOWNEY will publish immediately a new edition of Judge O'Connor Morris's study of Moltke.

A COMMITTEE has been formed at New York to raise a fund of 25,000 dollars (£5000), in memory of the late George William Curtis. It is intended that part of the money should be devoted to an artistic monument, and the remainder to the foundation and endowment of an annual course of lectures upon the duties of an American citizenship or kindred subjects.

It is interesting to record that Yale University has recently conferred upon Mr. E. C. Stedman her highest honorary degree—that of LL.D. Yale is Mr. Stedman's own university.

MR. ELLIOT STOCK announces that he will publish shortly two new volumes of illustrated verse: *The Flute of Athena*, by Mr. Reuben Bradley, and *Lea Spray and Other Poems*, by Miss Jeannie Bednall.

MESSRS. JARROLD & SONS intend to add to their one-volume series of fiction new editions of six of the works of Miss Helen Mathers, the first to appear being *Cherry Ripe*.

MR. W. MORTON FULLERTON, of the Paris staff of the *Times* and the author of *In Cairo*, is preparing for the press a volume of essays, which have already appeared in the magazines.

AT the meeting of the Council of the Authors' Society to consider the action of the libraries in relation to the three volume novel to which we referred last week, the following resolution was passed:

"The Council, after taking the opinions of several prominent novelists and other members of the Society, and finding them almost unanimously opposed to the continuance of the three volume system, considers that the disadvantages of that system to authors and to the public, far outweigh its advantages; that, for the convenience of the public, as well as for the widest possible circulation of a novel, it is desirable that the artificial form of edition produced for a small body of readers only be now abandoned; and that the whole of the reading public should be placed at the outset in possession of the work at a moderate price."

It may be added that opinion was practically unanimous in favour of the discontinuance of the present system, only one novelist being in favour of retaining the three-volume form.

MRS. OLIPHANT'S new novel, *A House in Bloomsbury*, will shortly be published in three volumes by Messrs. Hutchinson & Co.

To the August number of the *New Review* Mr. Hall Caine, whose *Manxman* will be ready on August 3, will contribute an article on "The Novelist in Shakspeare"; Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., will write upon the "Evicted Tenants in Ireland"; Mr. W. S. Lilly has a paper entitled "In Praise of Hanging"; and Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., a paper entitled "The Chaos of the Marriage and Divorce Laws."

ON July 31, Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge will commence a three days' sale of a large number of coins, medals, and tokens in gold, silver, and copper from the collections of Lord Grantly, Mr. Frank Hurst, the late Mr. George Mannes, F.S.A., the late Mrs. Bury, and General Sir Edward Stanton. Among the lots will be many rare Greek and Roman coins, some historical medals and British military decorations, including the Victoria Cross.

THE latest publication of the American Academy of Social Science at Philadelphia is an essay upon "The Political Ethics of Herbert Spencer," by Prof. Lester F. Ward. We have also received, from the same source M. Paul de Rousier's, "La Science Sociale," and Mr. Gustav Schmoller's "The Idea of Justice in Political Economy."

THE Rev. W. Done Bushell has sent us No. V. of his Harrow Octocentenary Tracts. (Cambridge: Macmillan & Bowes.) It is not, like the preceding ones, a reprint of some forgotten document connected with the early history of Harrow, but a popular lecture upon the Benedictine Abbey of Le Bec, in Normandy, which sent two successive archbishops to Canterbury—Lanfranc and Anselm, the founder and the consecrator of Harrow parish church. The last abbot of Le Bec, we may add, was none other than Talleyrand.

SIR CHARLES GAVAN DUFFY is preparing a memoir of his early days in Ireland and his

political career in Australia, to be entitled *My Life in Two Hemispheres*.

THE preparation of a biography of A. L. O. E. = A Lady of England (the late Miss C. M. Tucker) has been entrusted to Miss Agnes Giberne, who will be glad to receive reminiscences of her, or the loan of letters written by her.

MR. EDWARD STANFORD has issued a large chart of the field of the Naval Manœuvres, showing clearly by colours the coast-lines which are assigned to the several fleets, and also the "forbidden belt" which is a special feature of this year's plan of operations. It is reproduced (by permission) from the Admiralty Chart, and therefore gives the soundings and other marine marks; but the familiar plans on land are also given, so that the chart does not seem so strange as usual to a landsman's eye. Tables are printed on the map, containing the names of the ships engaged, the places of assembly, &c.

UNIVERSITY JOTTINGS.

MISS LILLIAN M. FAITHFULL, now lecturer in English at the Royal Holloway College, has been appointed to the vice-principalship of the Ladies' Department of King's College, in Kensington-square, vacant by the resignation of Mrs. Wace.

THE University of Dublin has conferred the degree of Doctor of Science upon Mr. Daniel Morris, assistant director of the Royal Gardens at Kew.

IN addition to the lectures upon Velasquez and Vandyke, it is now announced that Mr. C. W. Furse will lecture upon Rembrandt at the Oxford Summer Meeting of the University Extension Society. Among other lecturers on the history, literature, and philosophy of the sixteenth century appear the names of Dr. S. R. Gardiner, Mr. Walter Pater, Dr. Fairbairn, Dr. Fiske, Prof. Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart., Mr. Churton Collins, and Mr. H. Morse Stephens.

HER Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 have made the following appointments to science research scholarships for the year 1894, on the recommendation of the authorities of the respective universities and colleges. The scholarships are of the value of £150 a year, and are tenable for two years (subject to a satisfactory report at the end of the first year) in any university at home or abroad, or in some other institution approved by the Commissioners. The scholars are to devote themselves exclusively to study and research in some branch of science, the extension of which is important to the industries of the country. Edinburgh, John Carruthers Beattie; Glasgow, James Robert Erskine-Murray; Aberdeen, William Brown Davidson; University College, Bristol, Reginald Charles Clinker; Yorkshire College, Leeds, Frankland Dent; University College, Liverpool, Alfred James Ewart; University College, London, David King Morris; Owens College, Manchester, Julius Frith; Durham College of Science, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Robert Beattie; University College, Nottingham, William Beckett Burnie; Queen's College, Galway, John Alexander McClelland; University of Toronto, Frank Boteler Kenrick; Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Frederick James Alexander McKittrick.

AN annual grant of £700 for five years, out of parliamentary funds, has been made to Bedford College, London, on the same terms as to other university colleges.

THE late Mr. Samuel Sanders, whose donations of early printed books to the University

Library at Cambridge have often been recorded in the ACADEMY, has left the following bequests: to the University of Cambridge, £500 for the purchase of rare English books, and a selection of valuable topographical and other works from his own library, and also the sum of £2000, to apply the income in payment of a reader in bibliography (who is to deliver lectures on bibliography, palaeography, typography, bookbinding, the science of books and manuscripts, and the arts relating thereto); to the library of Trinity College, £500 for the purchase of books; and to the Fitzwilliam Museum, a picture of "Faith, Hope, and Charity," by Rubens.

WE quote, from the annual report of the curators of the Bodleian Library, the following, with regard to the cataloguing of early printed books:—

"Under the special grant for work on arrears, Mr. R. G. C. Proctor completed the catalogue of incunabula, together with a list of fifteenth century printers, giving a chronological clue to the arrangement of the catalogue, a list of the numbers in Hain and Campbell's bibliographies, represented in the catalogue, and a statistical table of the Bodleian incunabula. From this last, it appears that on May 26 there were in the Library 4832 separate books printed in the fifteenth century, besides 605 duplicates and 172 fragments. Of these, excluding duplicates, there were 57 books and 12 fragments printed at Westminster, 9 books and eight fragments printed at Oxford (the second English city in which the art was employed), 27 books and 13 fragments printed in London, 4 books and 3 fragments printed at St. Alban's, and 5 unattributed prints. Under the same grant, Mr. Proctor also catalogued about 200 English proclamations.

"Under a special grant from the delegates of the common university fund, Mr. Proctor likewise carried back from the beginning of N to the beginning of H the rough list of British and Irish books in the Library printed after 1500 and before 1641; he also compiled the article 'Elizabeth' for this catalogue. Having become an assistant in the British Museum, Mr. Proctor was unable to complete the catalogue; but before the end of the year, some progress had been made by other special assistants with the remaining letters, A—G."

THE Rede Lecture on "Libraries in the Medieval and Renaissance Periods," which Mr. J. W. Clark delivered last month at Cambridge, has been published in a neat little volume by Messrs. Macmillan & Bowes. It may be as well to state at once that the lecture does not deal at all with books, but only with the material appliances of libraries, such as book-cases, desks, seats, and (in particular) the old custom of chaining books. Mr. Clark's special object seems to have been to illustrate the early history of what is known about college libraries from the yet earlier records of monastic libraries. The original lecture was abundantly illustrated with lantern-slides; the volume, too, contains seven illustrations—partly from old prints, partly from archaic library-furniture that still survives at Zutphen, Cesena, and elsewhere.

THE *Library Bulletin* of Cornell University records the gift of a remarkably rich and extensive Spinoza collection, thought to be the largest in existence, from ex-president White; some 200 volumes of works on romance philology, from Prof. Crane; and such additions to Prof. Willard Fiske's Dante collection as to bring it up to nearly 3000 volumes, and to constitute it "undoubtedly the richest outside of Italy." The library has also issued a catalogue of Prof. Fiske's Rhaeto-Romanic (Römanisch) collection, gathered rapidly by the donor three years ago in the Tyrol. It fills thirty-two pages in double columns; and the collection, which has a curious linguistic interest, probably has no rival in completeness.

ORIGINAL VERSE.

A LIFE'S EPILOGUE.

I TURN the tiny key and scan with care
My reliquary's treasure unbeholden.
I tell their tale, those hoarded locks of hair,
The sheeny black, the silver grey, the golden.

What envy I yon singers lofty-throned,
Who voice each mood in life's eternal poem?
No sweeter love than mine their lips have moaned.
They sang their songs—but I have lived my poem.

GRANT ALLEN.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE second number of the *Yellow Book* (Mathews & Lane), though too bulky to be convenient, and far too full of "short" stories which are too diffuse to be short, is in some respects an improvement on the first number; but the improvement, we are bound to say, is far more marked on the pictorial than on the literary side. Even Mr. Hamerton, in his most genial hour, could hardly say that all this "easy writing" is easy reading—that it is "literature" rather than "letterpress." The amateur element—young ladies with pet names, like actresses at the Gaiety—is far too conspicuous than it should be if the *Yellow Book* is to be continued and is to command respect; while of those literary performers who condescend to be brief, more than one reminds us of a description given in the old days of Miss Kate Vaughan's dancing: "You think she is going to begin, or she does begin it may be; but just as you settle down seriously to witness, behold she stops." Of his "betrothed," for instance, has Mr. Gale nothing more to tell us than the not very original or valuable information that

"... Whatever my grief
There is healing and rest,
On the pear-blossom slope
Of her beautiful breast."

From Mr. Max Beerbohm there comes an explanation that his essay in the last number in praise of cosmetics was satirical. He thinks he "has" the critics because none of them thought it so; but, if he wished them to, he should have told them his intentions earlier; but perhaps he did not recognise how heavy was his hand in satire, and how deplorably the explanation was needed. In the department of art, though Mr. Beardsley's type of woman-kind—whether he calls it Réjane or leaves it a nameless horror—is as offensive as ever, and as thoroughly morbid, his cleverness in other work is not hidden under a bushel. Those three "garçons de café," for instance, are full of the entertainingness of rather *chargé* portraiture. Mr. Sickert is, as usual, striking and interesting; and Mr. Wilson Steer's portrait of himself—captioned behind the slender legs and flying skirts of a model putting on her shoe—is, though scarcely sufficient as a likeness, a charming production. Mr. Aymer Vallance's four drawings for the backs of playing-cards would be extremely suitable if the cards were there. Mr. Alfred Thornton's landscape has real dignity.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- BALZO, C. del. Poesie di mille autori intorno a Dante Alighieri. Paris: Fischbacher. 48 fr.
DE L'ONNE, Philibert. Œuvre de p.p. C. Nizet. Paris: May & Motteroz. 80 fr.
FORBES, R. Die Zeugnisse der byzantinischen, romanischen, gotischen u. spätern Kunstgeschichte. Strassburg: Forrer. 75 M.
FRANCE, Anatole. Le Lys rouge. Paris: Calmann Lévy. 3 fr. 50 c.
HARTMANN, E. Die sozialen Kernfragen. Leipzig: Friedrich. 10 M.

- MOROD, Gabriel. Roman, Taine, Michelet. Paris: Calmann Lévy. 3 fr. 50 c.
STREICHEN, F. Raphaels seit 1508 verschollene, in St. Petersburg aufgefunden Madonna di Siena. St. Petersburg: Schmitzdorff. 5 M.
STIEGLITZ, A. de. De l'Équilibre politique, du légitime et du principe des nationalités. T. II. Paris: Pedone-Lauriel. 10 fr.
THOMAS, Ch. Kleine deutsche Schriften, m. e. Einleitg. versehen u. hrsg. v. J. O. Opel. Halle: Hendel. 3 M.
VARIIGNY, H. de. En Amérique: souvenirs de voyage et notes scientifiques. Paris: Masson. 3 fr. 50 c.

THEOLOGY, ETC.

- BULMERINCQ, A. v. Das Zukunftsbild des Propheten Jeremia aus 'Anathoth. Riga: Hoerschelmann. 2 M.
KREMER, M. Josephus u. Lucas. Der schriftsteller. Einfluss des jüd. Geschichtschreibers auf den christl. Lehrsatz: Haessel. 10 M.
LORENTZ, J. Der Communismus der mährischen Widerständler im 16. u. 17. Jahrh. Leipzig: Freytag. 3 M. 60 Pf.

HISTORY, ETC.

- BIERLING, E. R. Juristische Prinzipienlehre. 1. Bd. Freiburg-i-B.: Mohr. 7 M.
DUQUESNOY, Adrien. Journal d', sur l'Assemblée Constituante, 3 Mai 1789—3 Avril 1790, p. p. R. de Crévécœur. T. 1. Paris: Picard. 10 fr.
HAMBRECHT, J. Die französische Invasion in Kärnten im J. 1800. Klagenfurt: Ferd. v. Kleimayr. 1 M.
HEUSER, E. Die Belagerungen v. Landau in den J. 1702 u. 1703. Landau: Kausler. 4 M.
LELLIS, C. de. Scritti e autografi di Cristoforo Colombo. Paris: Fischbacher. 150 fr.
MALZACH, A. Alamannens Heldenaal u. Ehrentempel. Geschichte der Alamannen bis zum Abgang des Herzogth. Schwaben. 1. Bd. Stuttgart: Metzler. 2 M.
PÉLISSIER, L. G. Lettres inédites du Baron G. Peyrusse écrites à son frère André pendant les campagnes de l'Empire de 1809 à 1814. Paris: Didier. 3 fr. 50 c.
PENNA, H. L'Algérie: organisation politique et administrative, etc. Paris: Rothschild. 10 fr.
PUBLICATIONEN aus den k. preussischen Staatsarchiven. 58. Bd. Die Politik d. letzten Hochmeisters in Preussen Albrecht v. Brandenburg. Von R. Joachim. 2. Thl. 1518—1521. Leipzig: Hitzel. 12 M.
SUTTER, C. Aus Leben u. Schriften des Magisters Boncompagni. Freiburg-i-B.: Mohr. 2 M.
WIART, René. Le Régime des terres du fief au Bas-Empire. Essai sur la Précarie. Paris: Larose. 6 fr.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

- GALLIE, J. G. Verzeichniss der Elemente der bisher berechneten Cometenbahnen, neu bearb., ergänzt u. fortgesetzt bis zum J. 1894. Leipzig: Engelmann. 12 M.
GARBE, R. Die Samkhya-Philosophie. Eine Darstellung des ind. Rationalismus nach den Quellen. Leipzig: Haessel. 12 M.
HALLER, B. Studien üb. dogmatische u. rhapsodische Prosafragmente, nebst Bemerkn. üb. die phylet. Beziehgn. der Mollusken untereinander. Leipzig: Engelmann. 32 M.
LINDEN, L. Les Orchidées exotiques et leur culture en Europe. Paris: Dela. 35 fr.
MORAND, J. de. Mission Scientifique en Perse. T. 1. Etudes géographiques. Paris: Leroux. 40 fr.
OSTWALD, W. Die wissenschaftlichen Grundlagen der analytischen Chemie. Leipzig: Engelmann. 4 M.
SEMPER, C. Ueb. die Niere der Pulmonaten. Hrsg. v. H. Simroth. Wiesbaden: Kreidel. 21 M.

PHILOLOGY.

- GILLBAUER, M. Die drei Systeme der griechischen Tachygraphie. Leipzig: Freytag. 3 M. 60 Pf.
KOSCHUTZ, E. Grammaire historique de la langue des Éblèmes. Paris: Welter. 5 fr.
MEYER, R. Einführung in das ältere Neuhochdeutsche zum Studium der Germanistik. Leipzig: Reissland. 1 M. 60 Pf.
MEYER-LÜCKE, W. Grammatik der romanischen Sprachen. 2. Bd. Formenlehre. 2. Abth. Leipzig: Reissland. 8 M.
WEIDEN, P. Geistliches Schauspiel u. kirchliche Kunst in ihrem Verhältnis erläutert an e. Ikonographie der Kirche u. Synagoge. Stuttgart: Ebner. 4 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CANON OF CHAUCER'S WORKS.

Cambridge: July 20 1894.

I understand that I am being blamed in a certain quarter for rejecting "The Cuckoo and the Nightingale" from the canon of Chaucer's Works.

It is difficult to get some people to understand the nature of evidence. I have not "rejected" this poem from the canon, because it cannot, in strictness, be said to have a place in it. It has to make its way in. That is the very point.

The nature of the so-called "Chaucer MSS." is often ill understood. They are, usually, MSS. which contain poems by many authors, being, practically, albums or collections of scraps. If we happened to open a modern

album with a poem by Tennyson in it, that would not carry with it the ascription to Tennyson of every poem in the book. Yet this is the extraordinary position which some well-informed people take up in the case of works "attributed" to Chaucer.

To take the case of the poem now in question. It occurs in five MSS.—viz., Fairfax 16, Bodley 638, Tanner 346, and Arch. Selden B. 24, all at Oxford; and in MS. Ff. 1. 6, at Cambridge. All of these MSS. are collections of scraps by many authors. Thus, Ff. 1. 6 contains poems by Chaucer, Gower, Hoccleve, Lydgate, a certain "Godwhen," Sir Richard Ros, and others; not to mention the Romance of Sir Degrevant.

"The Cuckoo and the Nightingale" is not ascribed to Chaucer in any one of the five MSS. Nor is it mentioned by Lydgate or Shirley. Hence there is no external evidence in its favour.

The fact of its appearance in Thynne's edition proves nothing. Helabelled his book "Chaucer's Works" for convenience; but he inserted poems by other authors. Lydgate's name is expressly mentioned by him several times; and the very poem which precedes "The Cuckoo and the Nightingale" has Gower's name to it, both at the beginning and again at the end, to make quite sure.

The other early editions are mainly reprints, till we come to Stowe and Speght. These editors added more poems, but they let the old ones stand. Stowe even added the portentously long poem of "The Storie of Thebes," not because it was Chaucer's, but because it was well known to be Lydgate's. The mere reprinting did not alter the facts. Gower's poem still remained his, and the anonymous poems remained anonymous.

Tyrwhitt was the first person to consider the whole question. He wished to make a glossary, and for this purpose he wrote a short account of the principal works in the editions. As to "The Cuckoo and the Nightingale," he gives no clear opinion, except that he was quite sure that the ballad which followed it, and seemed to form part of it, did not belong to it, and was sufficiently spurious. He probably regarded it as sufficiently genuine for glossarial use. Perhaps if he had edited it, which he never did, he might have changed his mind. It does not seem to be generally known that Tyrwhitt edited nothing whatever, except the Canterbury Tales only.

It is curious that the very title—"The Cuckoo and the Nightingale"—useful and descriptive as it is, was first employed by Thynne; and he may have invented it. In MS. Fairfax, it is called "The Book of Cupid"; in Bodley 638, it is "The Boke of Cupide god of loue"; and in Tanner 346, it is called "The God of loue." The other two MSS. give no title at all. The old scribes had no faculty for inventing titles, and invariably drop the title when they do not know it. Hence it is that so many well-known pieces have, in the MSS., neither title nor author's name.

The book which set the fashion for the modern "Canon of Chaucer's Works" was the anonymous edition published by Moxon in 1855, and inscribed to Mr. A. Dyce by the publisher. It seems to have been edited by Tyrwhitt's ghost, as it is entitled "The Poetical Works of Geoffrey Chaucer, &c.; by Thomas Tyrwhitt." Tyrwhitt died in 1786, and this edition, containing twenty-five poems which he did not edit in his lifetime, and mainly reprinted from the old black-letter editions

* Not six; it is not in MS. Harl. 7333, as I have unluckily said at p. 39, owing to misunderstanding the note by Dr. Morris to which I refer. I found that out, and omit mention of in describing the MS. at p. 58. But I forgot to strike out my former remark.

sixty-nine years after his death, might very fitly be called the "ghost edition." This curious work was actually adopted as the standard even by Dr. Morris. It is absolutely of no authority, its sole value consisting in the fact that it omits such pieces as Tyrwhitt decisively rejected, though it admits such pieces as "The Court of Love," "Chaucer's Dream," and other anonymous pieces written (as the language shows) in the fifteenth century at the earliest. Dr. Morris followed suit in 1866, but it is due to him to say that he lived to know better. Alas, for the loss of my good colleague in more books than one!

Since then the question has been taken up in earnest. The names of Bradshaw, Ten Brink, Child, Ellis, Sweet, Furnivall, Koch, Zupitza, and others are familiar to Chaucer students; and I am not aware that any scholar of repute has lately accepted this poem as genuine. Of course they have all seen the point: viz., that there is no external evidence in its favour, and that it has to make its way into the canon by force of internal evidence, which happens to be unconvincing. Prof. Lounsbury considers the question in his *Studies in Chaucer* (i. 487), and gives it up. "Its tone is not his tone, nor is its manner his manner."

The internal evidence, rightly understood, is also against it from a metrical point of view. I have already pointed out some faults of rhyme, but I now find yet another. In st. 17 there is a fatal rhyme, that of *upon* and *ron* (rained) with *mon*! *Mon* is meant for *man*; and it is surely an act of common prudence to find an example of Chaucer's use of *mon* before we rashly force the poem upon him. The rhyme of *gren-e* with *been*, in st. 13, is equally fatal.

An attempt is now being made to meet this last objection, by questioning my statement that *gren-e* is dissyllabic in Chaucer; but it is past all question, now that we have a complete set of indexes to Chaucer's rhymes. I have examined all the cases; but I cannot here exhibit the results, as the examples are very numerous. Of course, this investigation can only be made, or followed, by such as know the difference between correct and incorrect spelling. The spelling in the MSS. is sometimes absurd, and must be corrected by etymological and phonological laws. Critics must condescend to learn these laws, or, at the least, to look out words in Stratmann's Dictionary, before they take upon themselves to discourse upon what they do not understand even in the most elementary way. I may note that the adjectives *gren-e*, *ken-e*, *shen-e*, *y-sen-e*, *swet-e* all take final *e*, because they have a "mutated" vowel, and have, therefore, a mutating tail appended to them (see Sweet, *History of English Sounds*, pp. 348-350). Philologists will see the point of this remark. The word *grede* (st. 28) is not in Chaucer's Vocabulary; but in "The Owl and the Nightingale" it occurs at least five times.

WALTER W. SKEAT.

THE SEPTUAGINT AND SAMARITAN VERSUS THE HEBREW TEXT OF THE PENTATEUCH.

Athenæum Club.

I think I have succeeded, in the letters which you have been good enough to print, in showing that the Masoretic text of the Old Testament is a very untrustworthy guide. The position that this text was originally put together by, and accommodated to, the polemical necessities of the Rabbis at Jamnia, in their efforts to differentiate Judaism from its rivals, and especially from Christianity, seems to be fairly established. The alteration and accommodation of the text appears to have been carried out even in the case of the Pentateuch. I will

now give some examples, drawn in a considerable measure from Whiston and others, which might be greatly enlarged.

The patriarchal numbers as given in Genesis, being the numbers upon which the received chronology chiefly rests, are notoriously divergent in the several texts.

First, with regard to the patriarchs before the Flood, we have a remarkable fact. As I have said on many occasions in your pages, if we are to recover the true text of the Septuagint, it must be by patient criticism and examination of the materials which have reached us, and not by merely transcribing the Alexandrian or the Vatican or some other MS., which represents not the Septuagint but largely an eclectic text due to the labours of Origen and others who endeavoured to equate the various texts then existing. This is specially obvious in the case of the numbers attached to the patriarchal names in the various Greek codices. Augustine had already observed this, and said, "*nec casum redolet sed industriam*" (*De Civit. Dei*, xv. 13, 1-3.)

If we are to find the numbers as they were in the original Septuagint, we must turn to Josephus, who based his narrative on that version. We shall then find that, in the case of the first seven patriarchs, the Greek texts have added 100 years to the age of each one of them at the time when his son was born. In every case among these seven the authority of the original Septuagint, as reported by Josephus, is supported by the Samaritan numbers, by those in the Book of Jubilees, and in every case but one by the Masoretic numbers also; and it can scarcely be doubted that the numbers as reported in the manuscripts of the so-called Septuagint version are untrustworthy, and that we must subtract 100 years from the age of each patriarch at the time when his son was born, if we are to reach a just conclusion from these MSS.

Accepting this argument, the chronological result is as follows:—

	Age at his son's birth.	Years lived after the son's birth.	Total length of life.
Adam ...	130	800	930
Seth ...	105	807	912
Enos ...	90	815	905
Cainan ...	70	840	910
Mahaleel ...	65	830	895
Jared ...	62	785	847
Enoch ...	65	300	365
Mathushelah ...	67	653	720
Lamech ...	53	600	653
Noah ...	600		950

Number of years to the Flood, 1307.

Having seen reason to accept the Samaritan numbers for the pre-diluvian patriarchs, the conclusion gives us confidence in appealing to the same authority in regard to the post-diluvian patriarchs also. In regard to the age of eight of them at the birth of their sons we can scarcely be in doubt, since the numbers of Josephus and those of the Greek codices commonly quoted as representing the Septuagint are in complete accord with the Samaritan tradition; and the view is generally held now by the best critics that this concurrence is conclusive. The Masoretic numbers in each case differ, and differ only in the subtraction of 100 years from each, a uniformity which is consistent only with a methodical and artificial re-arrangement of the numbers.

In the case of one name only—namely, that of Jared—the Masoretic text agrees with the Septuagint and differs from both Josephus and the Samaritan version. As the latter are also supported by the Book of Jubilees, and as the difference consists in a hundred years having been added to the patriarchal numbers, we can hardly doubt that the Masoretic text here presents a sophisticated number, and that some

corruption has also crept into the text of Josephus.

In the case of the next patriarch, Mathushelah, we have a somewhat curious result. The Samaritan copy of the Bible quoted by Jerome differs from that quoted by Eusebius and from the present Samaritan Pentateuch in giving the age of this patriarch at the birth of his son, the former at 187 and 182 years respectively, and the latter at 67 and 53. It would seem almost certain that the Hieronymian text had been altered so as to equate it with the Masoretic text, and so also with the numbers in Josephus. For, curiously enough, the numbers in the Book of Jubilees completely confirm those in Eusebius and the numbers in the current text of the Samaritan Pentateuch. Another confirmation of this conclusion is to be found in the fact that in the Greek codices already referred to the age of Mathushelah at his son's birth is given as 167, which merely adds the regular accretion of 100, elsewhere found in that edition, to the numbers in the Samaritan version.

For these and other reasons it seems pretty clear, as Whiston argued long ago, and as Ewald, Bertheau, and Dillman seem to agree in our own day, that the Samaritan Pentateuch has preserved the original numbers. This is agreeable to *a priori* reasoning, for we can assign no possible polemical reason for the Samaritans wilfully altering their numbers. In all these numbers the Samaritan text agrees with Josephus and with the Greek MSS. of the Old Testament. There is only one difference, and this is that in the Greek MSS. just quoted an additional name has been inserted in the pedigree between Arphaxad and Sala, namely Cainan, to whom 130 years are assigned. This name does not occur in the Masoretic text, in Josephus, or in the Samaritan version, nor, as Whiston says, in Irenæus, Theophilus of Antioch, Clement of Alexandria, Africanus, Origen, Eusebius, Jerome, Josephus, Christianus, Hilarian, or in the Slavonic edition of the Bible. It was apparently inserted in the Greek codices already mentioned to make them consistent with the genealogy in St. Luke's Gospel, or perhaps it was derived in both cases from a corruption which had crept into the corresponding genealogy in 1 Chron. xviii. 24.

When we came to Nahor, the grandfather of Abraham, we have a curious inconsistency in the various copies. The length of his life is made 148 years in both the Masoretic text and the Samaritan, but curiously enough his age when his son Terah was born is given differently. In the Masoretic text when he was 29, and in the Samaritan when he was 79. The Samaritan numbers seem to be confirmed by the Greek codices, some of which give his age when Terah was born at 79 and others at 179 years. Josephus apparently here agrees with the Hebrew text. The reliability of the Samaritan version in these genealogies is more marked perhaps in the case of Terah, the son of Nahor and the father of Abraham. The Masoretic and Samaritan texts agree with Josephus and with the Greek MSS., in the statement that Terah was 70 years old when Abraham was born. They all agree again that Abraham was 75 years old when he left Haran after his father's death. Whence, as Whiston says, Terah must have been no more than 145 years old at his death. Yet the Masoretic text, Josephus, and the Greek copies all state he was 205 years old when he died. The Samaritan version distinctly makes him 145 when he died, which was the number in the copy of the Septuagint consulted by Philo (see *De Somniis*, p. 572). All this goes to show that the Samaritan version preserves the oldest and best tradition on the subject before us, and strengthens the contention that its numbers ought to be accepted instead of

those in the sophisticated Hebrew text. We will now give these figures:—

	After his son's birth.	Length of his life.
Shem after the Flood	2	500
Arphaxad when his son was born ...	135	303
Sala	130	433
Eber	134	270
Phaleg	130	239
Hagu or Reu	132	239
Sarug	130	230
Nahor	79	148
Terah	70	145

From the Deluge to the birth of Abraham, 942.

Turning from the chronological tables, we shall find numerous instances in the Pentateuch where the Septuagint and the Samaritan versions clearly preserve a better text than that of the Masoretic. Thus, in verses 6, 7, and 20 of chapter i. of Genesis, the Septuagint preserves clauses which are no longer found in the Hebrew, but which were present with little doubt in the original. In verse 4 of chapter ii. we are told, in the Samaritan and Septuagint versions, that God finished the work of creation on the sixth day, and not on the seventh as the Hebrew has it. The former reading is confirmed by the Syriac translation, by Josephus and the copies, and by Philo, Irenaeus, and Barnabas (see Whiston's Essay, 59). In verse 24 of chapter ii. the word "twain" omitted in the Hebrew text is present in the Samaritan and Septuagint. It is quoted Matt. xix. 5 and 6, Mark x. 7 and 8, 1 Cor. xix. 16, Eph. v. 31. In verse 8 of chapter iv. these two texts supply a phrase about Cain, not now present in the Hebrew—namely, "Cain said to his brother Abel, Let us go into the field." This must have been in the original, as it is in the Syriac translation, in two of the Targums of Philo and Clement, and in the Itala (*ib.* 60). In the Masoretic texts there is a blank, and a mark at this place acknowledging an omission. In verses 3 and 8 of chapter vii. the Septuagint and Samaritan versions supply words distinguishing between clean and unclean fowls, which were clearly in the original, but are no longer in the Hebrew. In Genesis xvii. 12, 13, and 14, we have the injunction that every male child should be circumcised on the eighth day. This is contained in the Samaritan and the Greek copies, and was present in the copies used by Philo, Justin Martyr, and Origen. Philo mentions that the injunction was found to be oppressive by the Jews of his time. Hence probably why the clause was cut out, and no longer exists in the Hebrew copies (*ib.* 61 and 62).

The same result follows from an examination of mere verbal differences. Thus in the Masoretic text the youngest son of Jacob is always called Benjamin, which is a Chaldean corruption. In the Samaritan text the name is given in its true Hebrew form—namely, Beniamin. By a peculiar punctuation, Jacob, in the Masoretic version of Genesis xlvii. 31, is made to worship leaning on the top of his bed, while the Septuagint has it leaning on the top of his staff, as the phrase is no doubt rightly quoted in Hebrews xi. 21. In verses 8 and 17 of chapter iii. of Exodus, the Gergeshites are omitted from the names of tribes mentioned, while they occur in both the Septuagint and Samaritan versions.

In verse 40 of chapter xii. of the same book the Masoretic text makes the children of Israel dwell in Egypt 430 years. The Samaritan and Septuagint versions and Josephus tells us that this was the time they lived in Canaan and in Egypt—that is, the 430 years includes the time which Abraham and his family dwelt in Canaan before they went to Egypt, which is exactly consistent with the statement in

Galatians iii. 17. In Numbers iv. 14 the account of the brazen laver with its drapery is omitted from the Masoretic text, although the clause is necessary to the sense. It is contained in both the Samaritan and Septuagint versions.

In Numbers x. 6 the signals for the marching of the camp are given only for two of its quarters in the Hebrew, but for all four, as they clearly ought to be, by Josephus and the Septuagint.

Josephus, doubtless quoting the true Septuagint and the Samaritan version, tells us Korah was burnt with the Levites, and was not swallowed up like Dathan and Abiram. This is agreeable to Psalm cvi. 17, and also to the account in Clement, Ignatius, and Eusebius, who quote from the unsophisticated Septuagint; and it ought to be accepted rather than the Hebrew reading.

In the Masoretic text of Deuteronomy x. 6 Aaron is made to die at Mosera, contrary to the statements in Exodus. The whole story is told correctly in the Samaritan version. In the Masoretic text, verse 3 of chapter xxxii. of Deuteronomy is unintelligible and has given rise to various ingenious comments and concordances. The true reading is preserved by the author of Ecclesiasticus, by Philo, and Clement, quoting, no doubt, from the true Septuagint.

St. Paul in Galatians iii. 10 quotes this passage from the law: "It is written, Cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things that are written in the book of the law to do them." The words underlined are no longer present in the Masoretic text of Deuteronomy xxvii., from which they are quoted. They both occur, however, in the Greek versions, and are implied in the reasoning of Justin Martyr (*Dial. con Trypho*, p. 322). The Samaritan version preserves the words, "in all things." The Syriac version also has the particle "all" as quoted by the Apostle. Jerome specially calls attention to the Jews having erased this word for polemical purposes; but, he says, it was present in the more ancient copies of the other nations, and was thus attested. It is a remarkable fact that, notwithstanding the Greek codices have been "edited," they still agree in 1000 places with the Samaritan as against the Hebrew. This concurrence is only consistent with the Hebrew text having been altered, for we cannot understand the Septuagint translators adapting their text to that of the Samaritans.

These quotations will suffice to give point to my contention, that it is quite time we ceased to admit the value that has been attached to the Masoretic text. It is natural, perhaps, that those whose whole lives have been spent in learning Hebrew, and who fancy that thereby they have secured a treasure beyond the reach of the common herd, should habitually exaggerate the virtues of the Hebrew Bible. But for the rest of us it is better we should realise that, if we are to secure a text of the Pentateuch free from the sophistications of the Jews, we must try and recover the original Septuagint text, and must also reconsider the judgments which have been hastily passed upon the Samaritan version. As Whiston says, we have no direct evidence whatever that the Samaritans tampered with their texts, while we know the Jews tampered with theirs—the Samaritans had no feud with the Christians and no motive to alter the Bible, but every motive to preserve it intact in view of the fierce criticism of their neighbours. I am not sure that Whiston is not right in extending this reasoning even to the two well-known texts which are supposed to have been sophisticated by the Samaritans—namely, Exodus xx. 17, and Deuteronomy xxvii. 4—which require an altar to be built and sacrifices

to be offered, not at Mount Ebal but at Mount Gerizim. Whiston argues that it seems more likely *prima facie* that the altar for divine worship and sacrifice, as well as for the inscription of laws, should be at the mountain appointed for the blessings, as Gerizim was, and not at that appointed for the curses, like Ebal.

The site fixed upon by the Samaritans seems to be the place where Joshua set up a stone for a witness to the Israelites, because, as he says, "it had heard all the words of the Lord which he spake unto them," which was at Sichem, close to Gerizim, and not at Mount Ebal. Christ seems to allow that the woman of Samaria was right when she claimed that their fathers worshipped on that mountain of Gerizim. Nor is there any known reason why the Samaritans should have selected Gerizim rather than Ebal. Josephus says the altar was in a plain between Mounts Ebal and Gerizim, "and not far from Sichem," which last descriptive phrase is in the Samaritan, but not in the Hebrew copies. It is not improbable, therefore, that even in these critical passages the Samaritan text preserves the true reading.

My letter is outrageously long, but my subject is a very fertile as well as an important one, and is not yet exhausted.

HENRY H. HOWORTH.

SCIENCE.

Beowulf. Edited, with Textual Footnotes, Index of Proper Names, and Alphabetical Glossary, by A. J. Wyatt. (Cambridge: University Press.)

THIS excellent and handy edition of *Beowulf* is, for the special requirements of English students, decidedly preferable to those of Heyne and Holder, which are practically its only competitors. In the construction of his text Mr. Wyatt has almost entirely abstained from original conjectures, and has for the most part shown sound judgment in his selection of emendations. Every deviation from the reading of the MS. is carefully indicated in the footnotes. Perhaps the book would have been more widely useful if it had contained explanatory as well as critical annotations, especially as the glossary is rather concise. Mr. Wyatt is now and then unduly scornful and wrathful in his references to the shortcomings of previous editors. On l. 1734, for example, he writes: "With admirable and shameless audacity Heyne and Wülker foist in *for* at the beginning of this line without a word of comment." Now in the case of Prof. Wülker (whose name, by the way, Mr. Wyatt always spells with the *c*, which the Leipzig professor has latterly discarded), it is almost certain that the omission of any remark on the insertion is simply one of those unfortunate oversights to which everyone is liable, even Mr. Wyatt himself being no exception, as is evident from his long, though not complete, list of errata. The bracketed note of exclamation, also, appears oftener than is quite commendable.

In one or two instances Mr. Wyatt's choice of readings appears unsatisfactory. In l. 21, where the MS. is defaced, he follows Grein (in his later text), Heyne, and Wülker, in reading *wine*. Prof. Wülker's statement that this is virtually the reading of the MS. does not seem to be

justified. Its only foundation is the fact that Thorkelin, who saw the MS. when it was in better condition than at present, gives the word as *pine*, which would be an easy mistake if the MS. had *wine*. But from what Prof. Zupitza says about Thorkelin's two transcripts, it is clear that the Danish editor only arrived at this reading after some wavering, which shows that the word was already by no means distinctly legible. And even if the reading *wine* unquestionably existed in the MS., it would still be open to strong objection, both on grounds of sense and of metre. A hemistich of the form . . . is something very unusual: a few instances do occur, but in some of them the reading is doubtful, and in others the eccentricity may be plausibly accounted for on grounds that are not here applicable. If the indications of the MS. permitted it, I should like to read *bysne*, which would give a good sense, and be metrically unobjectionable. This, however, does not seem to be consistent with the traces of letters that can be made out. Apparently the horizontal line preceding the *ne* can only be the tag of an *r*, and the long downstroke of this letter seems to be visible below the line. Hence the most satisfactory reading yet proposed appears to be *erne* (as in Grein's *Bibliothek*), though there is room at the beginning of the line for at least three letters before *ne*. In quoting Prof. Zupitza's note on this line as it appears in the facsimile, Mr. Wyatt has unfortunately omitted the last and more important part, thus giving the misleading impression that the facts as stated by Zupitza are consistent with the reading *wine*. In l. 1333 the MS. reading *gefrægnod* is retained without comment; and, strangely enough, the word does not appear in the glossary. Perhaps *syfle gefrægnod*, though it sounds rather ill-suited to the context, may be justified by the parallelism of *æse wolanc* in the preceding line; but Grein's conjecture of *gefegnod* at least deserves mention. In l. 1833 Mr. Wyatt adopts Grein's *hælum* for the "hæ nū" of the MS.; but is *hælum* a possible form? Line 3171 is printed in the text, after Grein, as "woldon [ceare] cwīðan, kyning mēnan." This is most likely correct; but in a footnote Mr. Wyatt makes the infelicitous suggestion, that the now illegible word may have been *wōpe*, which does not properly alliterate. It is true that Prof. Zupitza's transliteration indicates a gap of only four letters; but, if this point be pressed, the spelling *care* will meet the difficulty.

In two places Mr. Wyatt has made excellent textual suggestions, which, so far as I know, have not been anticipated. One of these is the reading, "ſa cōm beorht seacan [sunne ofer grundas]." This is based on Heyne's conjecture, but the transposition of *sunne* and *seacan* is a great improvement. In l. 3084 the awkward and obscure "hēoldon hēah gesceap" is altered to "hēold on hēah gesceap," the expression being illustrated by a reference to the Middle English "heald hardiliche o þet tu haues bigunnen." Mr. Wyatt is, I think, justified in expunging many of the hyphens which other editors have placed between adjectives and substantives. It was very

natural that the earlier scholars should have preferred, wherever possible, to assume composition rather than syntactical combination, in cases where the emphasis denoted by alliteration falls on the adjective and not on the following noun, because dominant stress on the adjective seems strange to modern feeling; but now that the matter is well understood, the retention of the hyphens appears to be due to mere traditional prejudice.

The "Index of Persons and Places" is, on the whole, very good, but in some cases it fails to indicate that illustrative matter may be found outside the limits of the poem. For all that here appears to the contrary, the names of Eormenric, Seyld and Scyldingas, Thrytho, and some others, might be peculiar to the Old English epic. This is hardly as it should be.

The glossary is an admirable piece of work, the explanations being obviously the fruit of careful original study of the text. No etymologies are given, but the modern English forms of the words appear in small capitals—as a part of the gloss when the original sense survives, in other cases within brackets. This method has too many advantages to be condemned; but it tends rather to encourage the common fallacy of young students, that what is now the most prominent sense of a word was the primary sense in Old English. Most scholars, I think, would confess that their appreciation of Old English poetry was for some time seriously hampered by an unconscious prepossession of this kind. To read a poem like "Beowulf" with the modern English etymological equivalents of the words in one's mind, is to obtain a totally false impression of its tone and spirit. A few remarks on this point might with advantage have been prefixed to the glossary. There are several unfortunate omissions: *forlæcan*, *gang*, *lary-twīdig*, *mægþ*. It is difficult to avoid oversights of this kind: a useful precaution would have been, before passing the proofs of the glossary, to go through Heyne's glossary or Grein's *Sprachschatz* word by word, so as to make sure that nothing had been forgotten. The glossary ought to have included the words in the Finnesburh fragment given in the appendix. In the arrangement of the glossary strict alphabetical order has been observed, except that the prefix-verbs are placed under the simple verbs. Although Mr. Wyatt expresses some misgivings about this, it appears to be the most useful method. There is a curious innovation in marking as long the vowels in the non-West-Saxon forms *wālm* and *mārcels*. If the unetymological lengthenings (which are not universally acknowledged) are to be marked in these words, the same rule ought in consistency to be applied to *underne* and some other instances of the same kind. It would, perhaps, be well to use the circumflex for compensatory and other secondary lengthenings, while retaining the macron as the mark of original long quantity.

HENRY BRADLEY.

CURRENT SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

A Dictionary of Medicine. By Various Writers. Edited by Richard Quain, Bart., M.D. New Edition, revised throughout and enlarged. In 2 vols. (Longmans.) The first edition of this well-known work owed its great success to the reputation of its editor and contributors, and to the intrinsic merit of presenting, in convenient form, a clear, concise, and methodical statement of what was most important to be known and done in medicine. After a careful comparison of this new edition with our familiar friend of 1882, we are able to say decidedly that the new is even better than the old. The original success has put editors and contributors on their metal: the veterans in a few cases have had the satisfaction of being able to present their first articles unchanged; but, as a rule, they or their successors have diligently revised and brought them up to date; the recruits, all of established quality, have proved themselves worthy of their company; Sir Richard Quain has promoted to be sub-editors under him two of the most capable and laborious of our younger physicians; and the result of their combined efforts has been a first-rate text-book of modern medicine, sober and practical without condescension, learned without pedantry. We had prepared a list of the more important of the new or revised articles, but it is far too long: suffice it to say that the work bears everywhere marks of conscientious industry and anxiety to be on a level with the best knowledge. The earlier edition was said to suffer from the considerable interval that divided the composition of some of the articles from their publication, especially in respect of microscopical pathology. That cannot be said of the new, which, so far as a book can be, is abreast with that restless science. To give only one instance of very many: in the first edition micro-organisms were dismissed in a very few pages, here they occupy no less than fifty. Both editions fail to draw the line between dictionary and encyclopædia; but that is a venial failure, and perhaps the line does not exist. We know that the first edition had a popular as well as a professional success, and circulated widely among a curious or anxious laity. For good or for evil, patients, and especially their friends, will read up cases; and if they must do so, it is far better for them to read a sound honest work like this than the advertising tracts and manuals of quacks and sharks. We can assure all such painful inquirers that this titled more sumptuous Quain, no less than the old almost dingy oracle, is accessible, trustworthy, and responsive to intelligent questionings; for the rest, so much or so little as they do not understand—*credat quia non intelligit*.

A Pocket-Flora of Edinburgh and the Surrounding District. By C. O. Sonntag. (Williams & Norgate.) The neighbourhood of Edinburgh ("from thirty to forty miles in diameter") contains an unusually large and varied flora, and Mr. Sonntag deserves the thanks of all lovers of flowers for his careful review of what it has to offer. He has, of course, used the localities given in the catalogue of the late Professor Balfour, but has also made his own collection; and it is not likely that much has escaped the eyes of two careful searchers. The woody ravine of Hawthornden may, however, be added to the list of stations for *Cardamine impatiens*. Mr. Sonntag gives a scientific description of each plant named, an artificial key to them, and a glossary of terms; and these features make his book much more helpful than local floras are wont to be, while in size it remains small and handy. His characterisations, clear and precise, throw a great deal of light on some critical genera, as *Salix* and *Hieracium*. But *Vicia sativa* and *V. angustifolia* need to be

better distinguished by pointing out that the latter plant has not the remarkably retuse and even deeply notched leaflets of the former. Of *Anacharis Alsinistrum* Mr. Sonntag says: "Male flower not known in Europe," and certainly we have never met with the male; but a writer in *Hardwick's Science Gossip* (1880) claimed to have found it in Britain. A few foreign plants, as *Laburnum*, *Pisum*, *Robinia*, *Zea Mays*, are included in the flora to the extension of its usefulness, but no *Characeae* are given. There are some errors of printing in botanical names; and it will be well in another edition to conform to usage, and print the second (or specific) name of each plant without a capital, except when there is a special reason for doing otherwise: thus we should have *Triodia decumbens*, but *Lythrum Salicaria*. The term "dimorphous," applied to the primrose, needs a little more explanation than it gets. But after making these suggestions, we feel it a duty to repeat that the book is most lucid and useful. It may give to all young botanists, even away from Edinburgh, a very pleasant and instructive summer.

SCIENCE NOTES.

THE president and council of the Royal Society have awarded the Joule studentship for the first time to Mr. J. D. Chorlton, of Owens College. This studentship was founded for the purpose of enabling students to carry out certain researches on lines laid down by Joule, more especially with the view of determining the constants of some of the instruments employed by him, which his representatives can place at the student's disposal.

THE Physical Society—which has met in the Royal College of Science since its foundation in 1874—will in the future hold its meetings in the rooms of the Chemical Society, Burlington House.

MESSRS. L. REEVE & Co. announce the publication of a work on "Foreign Finches in Captivity," by Dr. Arthur G. Butler, consisting of between 300 and 400 pages, with 60 plates, drawn by Mr. F. W. Frohawk, and coloured by hand. The mode of issue will be in ten parts, appearing at intervals of about six weeks; and the edition is limited to 300 copies.

THE Pengelly Memorial Fund now amounts to about £1360; and the committee have determined to proceed immediately with the erection of a lecture theatre, as part of the proposed addition to the Natural History Museum at Torquay, of which Mr. Pengelly was the founder.

THE July number of the *Geographical Journal* (Edward Stanford) contains the second of Mr. W. L. Slater's articles on "The Geography of Mammals." It deals with the Australian region, and is illustrated with a large map, in which the five sub-regions are clearly marked, as laid down by Mr. A. R. Wallace. In one point, however, Mr. Slater differs from Mr. Wallace, by transferring the island of Celebes to the Oriental region, on the evidence displayed by its mammalia. With regard to New Zealand and its adjoining islands, he follows Mr. Wallace (as opposed to Prof. Huxley and Prof. Newton) in refusing to give it the status of an independent region; while, at the same time, he criticises the theory recently put forward by Mr. H. O. Forbes, of the former existence of a great southern continent. Of the dingo, he says:

"The question of the origin of the dingo has not yet been settled. Although fossil remains of the animal have been found in the recent Tertiary deposits, it is difficult to say whether the dingo was introduced into Australia by the aborigines, or is indigenous. At the present time, it appears to

be found both in a wild state and in a semi-domesticated condition among the native Australians."

THERE is also a paper on the geographical distribution of animals in the current number of *Natural Science* (Macmillans). Mr. G. H. Carpenter, in opposition to the views of Mr. A. R. Wallace—of a Palaearctic and a Nearctic region—argues in favour of a theory which has obtained some support in America: that the Canadian sub-region should alone be called "Boreal," but that south of it there extends an independent region, which it is proposed to call "Sonoran." He maintains that this Sonoran region has a much larger proportion of distinctively American types, both of mammals and of birds, than the Borean. We are glad to find so much attention being devoted just now to this interesting subject.

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

WE hear that the Société Ramond, which has its headquarters at Bagnères de Bigorre, is about to publish the text of the Basque Pastoral of St. Helen of Constantinople, which (in the opinion of Prof. Vinson) is the best of all, and which has a special interest for English readers, in that the heroine marries King Henry of England. The text used is that preserved in the municipal library at Bayonne, with the necessary corrections introduced by an English Basophile, who copied it in 1892. It will be accompanied by a French translation, made by Canon Luchauspe (who has also revised the Basque text), and the Abbé P. Hariztoy, curé of Zubiburu. We may add that an English translation exists, waiting for a publisher. Last year the Société Ramond issued a very interesting and complete account of the Souletin Pastorals, by the Rev. Wentworth Webster.

IN illustration of the increasing study of Tibetan language and literature, we quote the following from the annual address delivered by Sir Charles Elliott, as president of the Asiatic Society of Bengal:

"The labours of Father Desgodin, S.J., claim particular notice. He has just completed his Tibetan-Latin-French Dictionary, a work begun by a fellow priest of his on the China-Tibet border fifty years ago. The French Government, to whom he first applied for help, having declined to assist him, Father Desgodin has arranged to publish the work at Hong-Kong, at the expense of the Roman Catholic Mission Society of China.

"The Tibetan-Sanskrit Dictionary, in the compilation of which Babu Sarat Chandra Das has been employed, is approaching completion. Arrangements have been made for buying the entire 'Tangyur' collection, consisting of 225 block-print volumes, to enable him to embody all the philosophical and technical terms contained in it in the Dictionary. The Bengal Secretariat Press has prepared three founts of Tibetan types, each consisting of 220 letters (both simple and compound), for printing the Dictionary, a Compendious Tibetan Grammar, and a work on Tibetan Correspondence.

"Babu Sarat Chandra Das has published several interesting papers on Buddhism and the Bon religion of Tibet in the *Journal of the Buddhist Text Society of India*. Among his translations from Tibetan, the 'Lamdon,' which is a Tibetan version of the Sanskrit work called 'Bodhipatha Pradipa,' by the celebrated Indian Pandit, Dipamkara Sri Jñāna, deserves special notice. It contains brief yet full accounts of the state of Buddhism and its cult, as understood in Magadha and Bengal during the tenth and eleventh centuries A.D. It also clears up some obscure points of Indian chronology, particularly the dates of the reigns of King Mahā Pala and his son, Naya Pala. These have hitherto been fixed, approximately only, from inscriptions. Some important facts regarding the rise and progress of the Mahayana School of Buddhism, in Kashmir and the countries

lying on its northern and western borders, have also been brought to light from the works of Sumpa Khanpo, the greatest historian of Tibet.

"The cause of Tibetan literature has suffered a serious blow from the death of Dr. Wenzel, whose contribution on Buddhism and Tibetan added so much to the value of the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. The *Journal* of our own Society has contained a number of interesting articles, by Dr. Waddell, dealing with Tibet. One fasciculus of the 'Pag-sam Thi Sin,' edited by Babu Sarat Chandra Das, and one of the 'Avadana Kalpalata,' edited by that gentleman and Pandit Hari Mohana Vidyabhushana, have appeared in the *Bibliotheca Indica*."

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS.—(Annual Meeting, Wednesday, July 12.)

THE RIGHT HON. JAMES BRYCE in the chair.—The hon. secretary (Mr. George A. Macmillan) read the report of the managing committee for 1893-94, of which the following is a summary:—Though the number of students was rather below the average, and the one piece of excavation undertaken (on the site of Abae) was hardly so fruitful as had been expected, the School had held its own and had attracted more pecuniary support than in any recent session. After a short account of the work of Mr. A. G. Bather, Mr. E. F. Benson, Mr. J. L. Myres, Mr. V. W. Yorke, Mr. D. G. Hogarth, Mr. E. R. Bevan, Mr. Gilbert Davies, and Mr. Arkwright, the report said that the site of Abae, in Phocis, was chosen for excavation after very careful consideration. It was famous for its oracle; and reference was made, not only by Pausanias, but by Herodotus and Sophocles, to the oracle, the fortress, and the temple of Apollo. The indications on the spot seemed full of promise; but after some three weeks' work, carried on in very severe weather, the excavators succeeded only in laying bare the plan of the temenos, with a temple, a *raukós*, and a stoa. The whole place must have been sacked; for of sculpture only a few late fragments were discovered, and a few inscriptions, mostly of Roman date. Some bronze bowls of early technique were the only artistic product of much importance. On the adjoining site of Hyampolis some inscriptions were found, but nothing else of consequence. Mr. Benson had made an encouraging report on the prospects of archaeological discovery at Alexandria, but for this purpose there were not anything like adequate funds. There was, however, an active archaeological society in Alexandria itself, which had already done no small amount of work with very limited resources. Arrangements had happily been made to prolong the services of the director, Mr. Gardner, whose college fellowship and Craven studentship had expired, and who would, in the absence of further aid, have been obliged to resign. But by the efforts of Mr. Egerton, the British Minister at Athens, and others, the committee had been able to re-appoint Mr. Gardner for one year only at a salary of £500. A special fund was being privately raised to meet the additional expenditure, and most opportunely a grant of £200 had been made to the School by Lord Rosebery from the Royal Bounty Fund. This gift was due to an appeal addressed to her Majesty's Government a year ago, urging the claims of the School to support from the public funds. The relations of the School with the other foreign Schools in Athens and with the Greek archaeological authorities had, as usual, been most friendly. Every facility was given by M. Kavvadias and his colleagues for carrying on the work at Abae; and special mention was due to the courtesy of M. Homolle, in allowing the director of the School to examine at leisure the remarkable discoveries made by the French School at Delphi. The director and students had also had the advantage of following in detail the excavations still being carried on with so much success by Dr. Dörpfeld on various sites in Athens. As already mentioned, the list of donations to the School had been considerably above the average of former years. Mr. Egerton had contributed £20, and had promised £20 more. Through his influence, £25 had been received from the Earl of Durham and £20 from the Dowager Lady Howard de Walden. From a document prepared by Mr.

Egerton, it appears that the French School enjoys an income of more than £3,000, and the German School an income of £2,000. Both these Schools are endowed by their respective Governments; but even the American School, which was of much later foundation, and depended upon the voluntary contributions of various colleges, could command an income of about £1,400 a year. These facts formed in themselves an irresistible argument for enlarging the precarious income of £450, upon which the British School now depended. In the autumn of 1893 the Hellenic Society renewed their annual grant of £100 for another period of three years. The report concluded with an earnest appeal for further funds to enable the School to carry on its work in a manner worthy of the name it bore." Among the subsequent speakers were Mr. Bryce, the Rev. J. E. C. Welldon, Mr. H. H. Asquith, Dr. C. Waldstein, Mr. D. B. Monro, and Mr. Hamilton Lang.

FINE ART.

TWO BOOKS ON ROSSETTI.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti: and the Pre-Raphaelite Movement. By Esther Wood. (Sampson Low.)

Dante Gabriel Rossetti. By F. G. Stephens. "Portfolio" Monograph. (Seeley.)

THESE two studies on Rossetti are welcome, if for no other reason than because their appearance indicates the growth of public interest in the work in two arts of the remarkable man who died twelve years ago. To that small company of friends who stood by his grave at Birchington in February, 1882, it must be difficult to realise that so long a period has elapsed. Most of them, if not all, are still alive. Is there one whose prognostication, as to how Rossetti would stand a decade after his death, has been verified exactly? I recollect the discussion on that occasion. Some thought that Rossetti's reputation as a poet was of a more temporary nature as a painter; a few held the contrary opinion. There was one who was convinced that within ten years the author of "The House of Life" would be known to a few hundred rather than to a few thousand persons; and there was another who maintained that, whether Rossetti's fame as poet grew or waned, his fame as a painter would steadily fall away. "Ten years will suffice to see him dethroned from his leadership; twenty to see his pictures sought only by enthusiasts; and fifty years hence they will have little interest, save as illustrations to his poems."

Neither they who held these exaggerated and contradictory opinions, nor they who frankly confessed absolute uncertainty, foresaw the steadfastness of Rossetti's reputation. But even now it would be difficult to prove that there has been any wide and deep recognition of his work as a painter. There must be hundreds of visitors to the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool, or to the National Gallery, who take pleasure in "Dante's Dream," or in "Ecce Ancilla Domini": but a surer test is the frequency of reproductions from drawings and paintings by Rossetti which are to be seen in the art-magazines and in art-shops; and in the publication of books so handsome and elaborately illustrated as the two before us. It is surprising, however, to find how much ignorance still prevails. Presumably there are not many who are so wide of the mark

as the journalist who, the other day, alluded to Rossetti as "the able disciple of Sir E. Burne-Jones"; but there is a goodly number of those who regard him either as an isolated and eccentric man of genius, as unclassable, almost as incomprehensible, as William Blake; or, on the other hand, who look upon him as simply a not very important member of an insignificant group.

We are still too near the man to estimate aright his influence, direct or indirect. But slowly the conviction is growing that his was one of the most potent creative minds which have influenced the Victorian era. It is easy to understand how the charm and beauty of Tennyson may appeal far less to the readers of 1994 than to those of to-day: or how the major part of the work of Browning may by that time have lost its savour. It may, of course, be otherwise; yet the possibility is one that must occur to many admirers of the two poets. On the other hand, it is difficult to conceive of "The House of Life" being forgotten, or so neglected as to amount to being forgotten. It will never be popular, as, for example, the *Idylls of the King* is popular. Rossetti will ever be a poet's poet—the Keats of the Victorian epoch. It is possible that "The King's Tragedy" and other noble ballads may lose part at least of the attraction they have for us; but "The House of Life" is based on something far stronger than any literary vogue or temporary taste. Love has its high priests, whom Time cannot dethrone. We still thrill to Catullus'

"Lesbia illa,
Illa Lesbia, quam Catullus unam
Plus quam se atque suos amavit omnes!"

to Heine's "Und als ich so lange, so lange gesäumt"; to the rarefied passion of the "Sonnets from the Portuguese"; to that last sonnet of Keats' hopeless love. Perhaps more than any of these poets Rossetti will always appeal, in one particular way. He is one of the few who have wrought an equal music from body and soul, who in emphasising the one have denied nothing to the other. Above all, he has expressed supremely the sentiment of passion in loss. He is brother to all who out of their long weariness and pain exclaim,

"Ah! dear one, I've been old so long!"

In verbal music Rossetti touched a deeper note than any writer of his age. Since Milton there has been no such volume of sound. The noblest blank verse, the finest passages in "The Cenci" or "Hyperion," in Landor or Wordsworth, do not evoke so sonorous a note as certain of the "House of Life" sonnets. It may be that his supreme distinction lies, as Mr. Walter Pater has said, in "the adding to poetry of fresh poetic material, of a new order of phenomena, in the creation of a new ideal"; but it must not be forgotten that he has taught us a profound and haunting music which no other Victorian poet has rivalled.

When we come to consider what Rossetti accomplished in art, we are met at once by a difficulty unusual in the estimating of a painter's work. Everything from his brush or pencil is so permeated by his poetic imagination that it is difficult to deny the aptness of that criticism which would make

his painting secondary to his poetry, if on no other ground than that it is essentially illustrative. It is easy to point to the poem and the picture of "The Blessed Damozel," and to emphasise the incontestable superiority of the poem; but the instance is not a fair one. We must also bear in mind "Sibylla Palmifera": still more, perhaps, "Astarte Syriaca," "Venus Verticordia," "Mnemosyne." These stand alone; and it is a mere accident that they complement, or are themselves complemented by, certain sonnets of great beauty. Still, we are faced with the fact that, in hardly any instance where Rossetti found expression in two arts for the same emotional idea has he equalled with the brush what he achieved with the pen. If ever a man delivered himself of his message in one short poem, it is in the sonnet, "Sibylla Palmifera." How much of Rossetti is there, comparatively, in the painting of the same name? Beautiful as are "Proserpina" and "Astarte Syriaca," there must be many who love Rossetti's work in both arts who could not hesitate as to whether, in each instance, he has best expressed himself in verse or paint. Even paintings so distinctively decorative as "The Sea Spell," "Fiammetta," and "The Day Dream," seem to illustrate the sonnets better than the sonnets illustrate them. The painting can give

"Her lute hangs shadowed in the apple tree,
While flashing fingers weave the sweet strung
spell
Between its chords;"

but it cannot give also that exquisite completion,

"And as the wild notes swell,
The sea-bird for those branches leaves the sea."

The picture can suggest—

"But to what sound her listening ear stoops she?"

but in the poem there is a more profound appeal—

"What netherworld gulf-whispers doth she hear,
In answering echoes from what planisphere,
Along the wind, along the estuary?"

Even in so dramatic a subject as "Found," there is nothing that is not conveyed in the sonnet written for the picture. Nay, is there anything in the painting to surpass the exquisiteness of the verbal delineation: how, as the

"lamps across the bridge turn pale
In London's smokeless resurrection-light,
Dark breaks to dawn."

It is only now and again that Rossetti expressed in a picture or a design what he could not have as well expressed in verse: as in the drawing of "Mary Magdalene at the Door of Simon the Pharisee," or in "How They Met Themselves"—or again, though in a less degree, in "Hesterna Rosa" or "The Sphinx."

In painting, this was Rossetti's triumph, to have given to the world a new type, or rather the several variations of a new type, and to have raised the impersonation of abstractions to a height which surpassed everything since Dürer's "Melancholia." Of course, the type of face, which is broadly called Rossettian, existed in this country before Rossetti was born, and at this day may be seen so frequently as to justify one in saying that it is native. Strangely,

it is mainly, though of course not exclusively, metropolitan: and again, strangely, it is to be discerned far oftener in central or eastern London than in the West End. Again, Lionardo in "Monna Lisa," Albrecht Dürer in "Melancholia," many minds in divers ways, have embodied in a human figure what would otherwise be incommunicable by pictorial art; but in "Astarte Syriaca," "Mnemosyne," "Proserpina," "Pandora," "Silence," Rossetti achieved what no man before him has done with like intensity and completeness.

Of the two volumes before us, one of which deals wholly, and the other largely, with Rossetti as a painter, that of Mr. F. G. Stephens is the more thorough, while that of Mrs. Wood is of more interest to the general reader. While both are valuable, neither can be called indispensable. All of actual importance that is said or chronicled in either has been said or chronicled already.

Both writers are commendably accurate in all essential details. Naturally, in the case of so inconsequent and variable a man as Rossetti, there are dates and designations recorded by Mr. Stephens which are open to question; but only a few persons exist to whom literal exactitude in this respect can be important. But we must take leave to doubt Mr. Stephens's conjecture that the beautiful poem called "The Portrait" was inspired by Miss Alice Wilding, a model for many of Rossetti's paintings between 1864 and 1874.

Mr. Stephens is able to reveal one or two episodes of Rossetti's early life which are interesting. Here and there, too, he has introduced a few lines or passages which the close student of Rossetti will do well to note. For the rest, there is little in his monograph which is not to be found in the concise and admirably ordered art-record which we owe to the conscientious pen and industry of Mr. W. M. Rossetti.

To be frank, the chief value of both books is in their wealth of illustration. The owner of them may fairly claim to possess a representative collection of Rossetti's paintings and drawings in excellent reproductions. We have his first complete design, "Genevieve," and one of his earliest pictures, "Ecce Ancilla Domini"; his mature powers are indicated by designs such as "How They Met Themselves" and "The Sphinx," "Lancelot in the Chamber of Guenevere" and "Dr. Johnson at the Mitre"; or in compositions such as "Venus Verticordia," "Proserpina," "Aurea Catena," and "Our Lady of Pity."

There is so much that is readable in Mrs. Wood's book that it may seem ungracious not to speak more highly in its favour. If it tells nothing that is new to those already familiar with the subject, it is at least the most comprehensive account of the Pre-Raphaelite movement that has yet been put together. It is a mosaic of other people's opinions, skilfully made by one who is sympathetic as well as judicious. Mr. Hall Caine, Mr. Joseph Knight, Mr. Myers, and others, have been largely drawn upon; but neither they nor any other concerned will grudge Mrs. Wood her industrious appropriation of material, partly because that material is now for the most part common

property, but mainly because she has made such good use of it. There are many passages which show that she can think for herself, and some of these are both significant and admirably expressed.

Both books should, therefore, be welcomed. In particular, Mrs. Wood's will certainly help many people, not only to a better understanding of the life-work of the poet and painter, but also of that vast intellectual movement, of which Pre-Raphaelitism was only an eddy, which owed its stimulus to the French Revolution, and is still sweeping us onward, though to new seas and alien shores.

WILLIAM SHARP.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

MESSRS. TURNER & Co. opened on Wednesday last at 104, New Bond-street an exhibition of fine-art porcelain.

AN exhibition of the works of students in the South Kensington Schools of Art has just been opened in the Museum.

MR. WALLIS, the director of the Nottingham Art Gallery, is now arranging an autumn exhibition in the Castle Museum Galleries of a collection of the works of the different schools of painters who have made Cornwall their place of work. This will be the first time, we believe, that a representative collection of these schools has been exhibited.

WE quote the following, with regard to the coin-collection, from the annual report of the curators of the Bodleian Library:

"A very important gift was received from Mr. E. L. Hussey, who presented all those of his gold and silver British coins of which the Bodleian did not already possess good specimens. These were 95 in number, ranging from William I. to Victoria. He also gave a gold coin of Philip V. of Spain, a gold coin of John V. of Portugal, and 5 English silver tokens, together with all his English brass or copper tokens not already represented in the Bodleian. A collection of 37 assignats of the French Revolution were presented by the Misses Swann.

"23 Gaulish Æ. and a few others were bought at auction for £1 4s., and 62 Anglo-Saxon stycas for £2 8s. The guinea of 1785 and the two-pound piece of 1823 were purchased privately. And the Mint supplied at cost price the imperial and colonial coins struck by it in 1891 and 1892.

"Mr. Oman brought almost to completion his catalogue of the Anglo-Saxon coins. The Librarian arranged provisionally for consultation all the unarranged English coins from William I. to Philip and Mary, 702 in number, dividing them under each reign, so far as was practicable, by towns and moneyers as well as by value. With the help of Mr. Hutt, he sorted 252 coins of Elizabeth to Charles I., for arrangement in 1894. And under his direction Mr. Hutt arranged by date and value 1133 unarranged coins from the Commonwealth to George III."

MAJOR TEMPLE has reprinted from the *Indian Antiquary* (London: Luzac) his illustrated paper, entitled "Notes on Antiquities in Ramannadesa," of which some mention has already been made in THE ACADEMY. It may be as well to explain that Ramannadesa (= the country of Rama) is the ancient name for the coast of Burma which was occupied by the Talaings; and that Major Temple is here dealing primarily with only a small portion of it, namely, the river caves in the immediate neighbourhood of Maulmain. These caves teem with Buddhist sculptures of various dates, which are copiously illustrated here in no less than fifteen photographic plates. Unfortunately, the inscriptions are few in number, and apparently of no great antiquity or

historical importance. Not only is this paper of Major Temple's the most elaborate study of Burmese archaeology with which we are acquainted, but he has made it still more valuable by the discussion of incidental matters—such as the history of the glazed ware known as Martaban or Pegu jars; and the prevalence of Northern Buddhism in its Tantrik forms as far south as Thaton. Major Temple even goes so far as to hint that Burma may possibly have received its religion, not from Ceylon, but from Bengal.

MR. JOHN MURRAY has in the press a Handbook of Ancient Roman Marbles, compiled by the Rev. H. W. Pullen, whom some will perhaps recognise as the author of *The Fight at Dame Europa's School*—a book in its time nearly as famous as *The Battle of Dorking*. It will consist of a history and description of all ancient columns and surface marbles still existing in Rome, with a list of the buildings in which they are found. Mr. Pullen, we may add, has recently revised the Handbooks for Northern, Central, and Southern Italy, and also for Rome.

An Atlas of Ancient Egypt. Special Publication of the Egypt Exploration Fund. (Kegan Paul & Co.) We hope this handy and very complete little volume will have a large sale, particularly among schoolmasters and clergymen. It will serve to dispel many of the false notions about Egypt, both modern and ancient, some of which have had disastrous practical consequences. The maps are numerous and unreservedly excellent. They include maps of ancient and modern Egypt and the Soudan, as well as one to illustrate M. Naville's discoveries in the land of Goshen. What gives especial value to the Atlas is the letterpress which accompanies it. This has been written by one of the best and most accurate of English Egyptologists, and contains in a small space all that is most necessary to know about the geography and history of Ancient Egypt. A summary is added of "Mr. Naville's geographical discoveries relating to the sojourn of the Israelites in Egypt and to the route of the Exodus." There is, further, a list of Egyptian place-names mentioned in the Bible, as well as an account of the chief authorities on Egyptian geography and history. The names of the nomes are given in hieroglyphics, and the indices at the end of the volume leave nothing to be desired. The Egypt Exploration Fund is to be congratulated on the successful completion of a very useful piece of work.

THE STAGE.

STAGE NOTES.

THE theatrical season—so barren of interest as regards new pieces—is at an end, and we have almost nothing to congratulate ourselves upon except the continued excellence of certain performers. "Sarah" remains great, though the latest pieces she has "created" have been not quite worthy of her—inferior not alone to the masterpieces of old tragedy or modern comedy in which her fame was acquired, but likewise, in some respects at least, to "La Tosca," which is said, with all its horrors, to be the piece of her predilection. Since the star of Eleonora Duse has for the time being set, the star of Réjane has been in the ascendant; and, in regard to this skilled artist and so engaging personality, it must be said that "Madame Sans Gêne" has possessed the advantage of summarising the whole of her talent. M. Sardou, though far from being an original thinker or an exquisite writer, is the most dexterous of all possible measurers of the ability of an actor or actress; and just as he

fitted Sarah Bernhardt with "La Tosca," so he fitted Mme. Réjane with "Madame Sans Gêne." And Réjane, in London as in Paris, with her freedom and her style, her momentary distinction, her momentary abandonment, has had her unquestioned triumph. In London, though Mr. Irving has appeared in no new part, he has not, we are glad to say, rested satisfied with the revival of "Faust." Several performances of "Becket" and one of "The Merchant of Venice" have reminded the playgoer not only of Mr. Irving's versatility, but of his singular and undisputed mastery of his particular art. We have heard actors who would fain be his rivals, and jealous little actresses whom it has not been convenient to him to engage, say of him—as if they summed up the whole of the situation in the word—that he is "a great stage-manager." Mr. Irving is that, beyond doubt; but intelligent, unprejudiced opinion has long declared that, whatever may be his "mannerisms," he is nothing less than a great actor besides. At the Haymarket we have seen the marked success of "A Bunch of Violets," and, as Mr. Tree was justified in saying in his parting speech, some distinct rise in the dramatic abilities of Mrs. Tree. The Comedy has been the scene of Mr. Willard's welcome return, and he has shown us the spontaneity of his humour, and not only reminded us of the intensity of his pathos.

MUSIC.

MUSIC PUBLICATIONS.

Letters of Franz Liszt. Collected and edited by La Mara, translated by Constance Bache. In 2 vols. (Grevel.)

As in the correspondence between Wagner and Liszt, so again here we have the writer quite *à naturel*: most of the letters were evidently penned on the spur of the moment, and without any thought of their falling into the hands of any other persons than those to whom they were addressed. Of course there are allusions to men and events which, in the course of years, have lost their point; but, reading between the lines, we notice many passages of great interest. A few of these may be selected, to tempt our readers to search the volumes for themselves.

The earliest letter, addressed to Czerny, bears date December 23, 1828; while the last, to the master's favourite pupil, Sophie Mentor, was written only a few weeks before his death, July 31, 1886. In the first letter, Liszt reproaches himself for having forgotten "that good master to whom I owe both my talent and success." Liszt was, in the main, a sincere man, and yet at times his language is certainly hyperbolic. The early letters remind one forcibly of the marked changes that have taken place in musical art during the past half century. We read of Czerny's now forgotten concertos, which are "making a stir in Paris"; of Pixis, Ebner and Kalkbrenner, and other worthies, now mere names. In a letter to Schumann in 1838, Liszt questions whether Henselt "is anything but a distinguished mediocrity." Forty years later, however, Henselt's works are, for him, "the noblest jewels of art." Liszt took a great delight in Schumann's works, and, indeed, in this same letter he says:—"To speak frankly and freely, it is absolutely only Chopin's compositions and yours that have a powerful interest for me." There are several interesting references to Beethoven. In a letter written to W. Lenz, that enthusiastic admirer of the Bonn master, he proposes, not the generally adopted division of the composer's art-work into three styles, but into two categories: one in which thought is governed by traditional form; the

other in which thought determines form. And thus, as he justly observes, "we arrive in a direct line at those incessant problems of authority and liberty." And again in a letter to the Intendant of the Weimar Court Theatre, written in 1855, he explains why he has not put a Beethoven Symphony into the programme which forms the subject of the letter. He is quite willing to "respect, admire and study the illustrious dead, but why not also sometimes live with the living?" He does not wish Weimar to follow the example of Paris, London, Leipzig, Berlin, and a hundred other cities, and stop at Beethoven, "to whom," as he pointedly remarks, "while he was living, they much preferred Haydn and Mozart." These words were written nearly forty years ago, and yet there are musicians still stopping at Beethoven: nay, some stopping at the works of the so-called second period. Liszt's admiration for Berlioz is well known. In addressing Wilhelm Fischer, Wagner's faithful friend, he refers to "Benvenuto Cellini" as, with exception of the Wagner operas, "the most important, most original, musico-dramatic work of art which the last twenty years have to show." This was written in 1854, at which period the latest Wagner opera was "Lohengrin." And having mentioned Schumann and Berlioz, let us quote one sentence from a Roman letter of 1868. Liszt says:—"Neither Schumann nor Berlioz could rest satisfied at seeing the steady advance of Wagner's works. Both of them suffered from a suppressed enthusiasm for the 'music of the future.'" This we consider a very happy expression. Writers are apt to speak of the lack of appreciation of a great composer for his illustrious contemporaries. It seems, at any rate in many cases, far more sensible to ascribe this coolness, not to want of understanding, but to "suppressed enthusiasm."

There is no letter from Liszt to Mendelssohn; and we are not aware that the two ever corresponded with each other. In a recently published brochure, Liszt is quoted as having said that Mendelssohn always disliked him; but a reference to "Mendelssohn, at whose recommendation you formerly published my pianoforte scores of the Pastoral and C minor Symphonies" certainly does not show ill-feeling on either side. Liszt often speaks of his own compositions, and of the hostile attitude of the press. "It stands clearly written," he says in a letter to Walter Bache, "a hundred times over, that I cannot compose." It pained, but did not discourage him. In the letter just quoted, and in others, he announces his intention to go on quietly writing in his own way. It surely must have been some malicious criticism which caused him to write to Louis Köhler about "all the cackle of goose-quills." If the footnote on page 427 of vol. i. be correct, and we have no reason to doubt it, there were men who condemned him unjustly. It appears that a Liszt pianoforte piece was announced on a programme of a concert given by Boskowitz in 1860. The latter, however, substituted the "Jagdlied" from Schumann's "Waldscenen," but the correspondent of the *Deutsche Musikzeitung* carped "at the supposed Liszt composition." One word about Schubert, whom Liszt idolised. To Prof. Lebert he writes of him, in his most exuberant style:—

"O never-resting, ever-welling genius, full of tenderness! O my cherished Hero of the Heaven of Youth! Harmony, freshness, power, grace, dreamings, passion, soothings, tears, and flames pour forth from the depths and heights of thy soul, and thou makest us almost forget the greatness of thine excellence in the fascination of thy spirit."

But his enthusiasm did not prevent him from

judging, and in that same letter he says: "H. [Schubert] was too immoderately productive, wrote incessantly, mixing insignificant with important things, grand things with mediocre work." And there is one other passage in this letter that we must quote. Liszt, referring to his edition of Schubert's pianoforte works, says:—

"In the Sonatas you will find some various readings, which appear to me tolerably appropriate. Several passages, and the whole of the conclusion of the C major Fantasia, I have re-written in modern pianoforte form, and I flatter myself that Schubert would not be displeased with it."

Liszt's tamperings with classical texts cannot always be justified; though the above extract shows that it was not the vanity of a virtuoso which prompted him, but a strong desire to present the "old masters" in what seemed to him the best light.

The translation of the letters by Miss Bache is excellent. Though Liszt, as a letter-writer, is not so formidable as Wagner, still, at times, he must have given the translator considerable trouble. There is, also, an index most useful for reference. The volumes contain several letters from Liszt to the late Walter Bache, brother of the translator. Bache worshipped his master and friend, and we find Liszt constantly thanking him for his devoted efforts to make known his compositions. Here is a good specimen:—

"Truly, dear Bache, you are a wonder-working friend. Your persevering trouble, exertions, expenditure of time and money for the production of my bitterly-criticised compositions in London during the past fifteen years, are among the most uncommon occurrences in the annals of art."

These Liszt Letters are a welcome addition to musical literature. At some future day we may hope for a further instalment, for there must be still very many unpublished.

J. S. SHEDLOCK.

MUSIC NOTES.

LAST Saturday was produced the last novelty of the season at Covent Garden, Mr. Emil Bach's "The Lady of Longford," the libretto of which was written by Sir Augustus Harris, and Mr. Frederic E. Weatherly. There are three things to praise in this opera: the brevity and directness of the book, the modern character of the music, and the improvement which it shows over Mr. Bach's first work of the kind. Short libretti are now the fashion, and if we praise the brevity of the one in question, it is because it shows a fault in the right direction; but the interest of the story is naturally of a slender kind. Then again, the music is written on Wagner lines, but Mr. Bach follows the master *longo intervallo*. Mr. Bach aims high by nature; by instinct, however, he can scarcely lay claim to strong dramatic gifts. Of course it is right to note progress in a composer, yet, after all, a critic must compare, and it must be admitted that "The Lady of Longford" is the least interesting of the novelties this season. Mr. Cowen's "Signa" was not the best, but in it there was greater interest, and workmanship of a far better kind. On Saturday evening Mme. Eames played the part of the Countess of Longford with much dignity. MM. Alvarez and M. E. de Reszke were excellent, the one as the Earl of Longford, the other as the Roundhead Colonel. Mr. Mancinelli conducted with great spirit. The authors and composer were called before the curtain.

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